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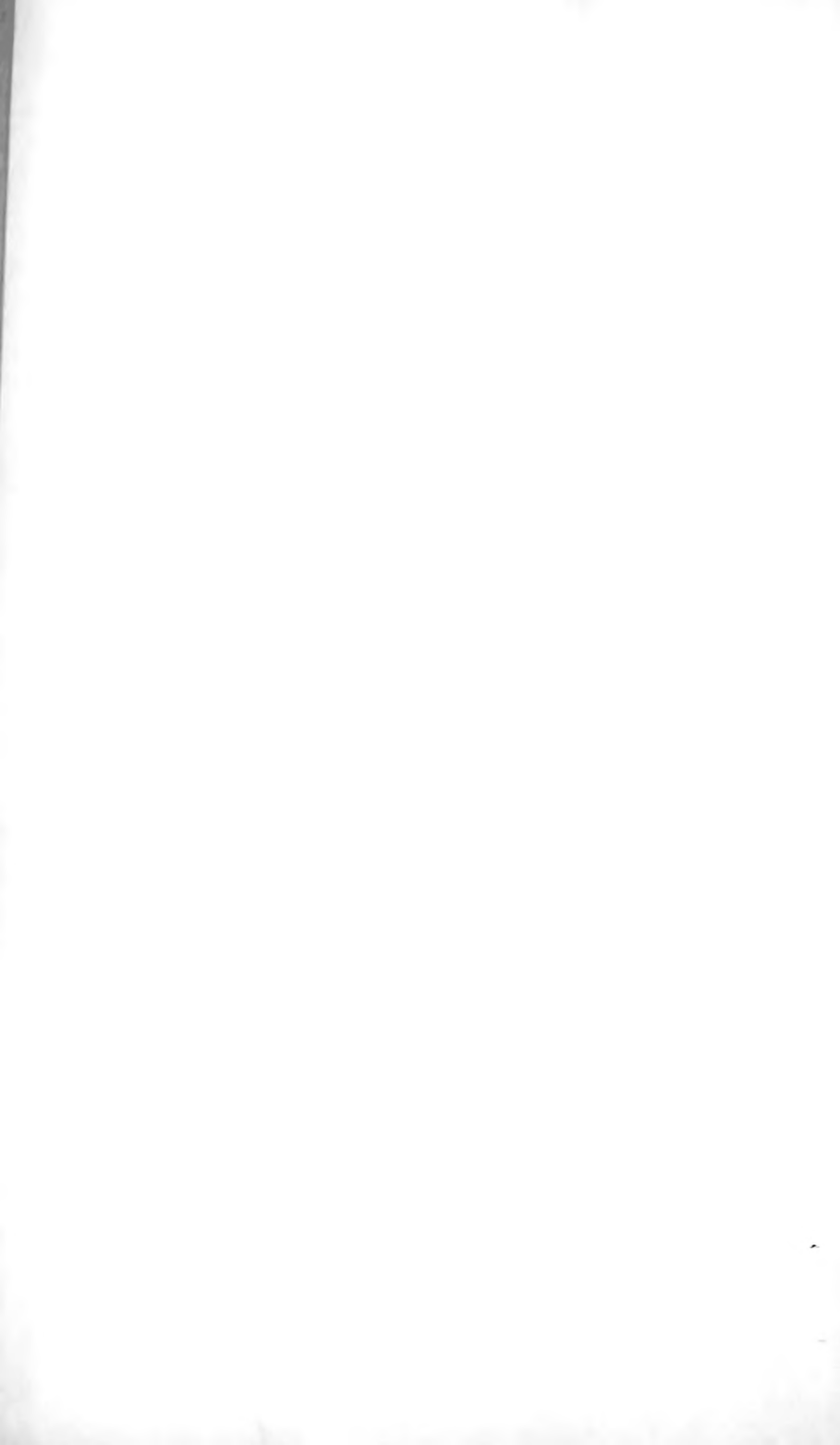


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HISTORY

—OF THE—

GRAFF * FAMILY

—OF—

WESTMORELAND CO.

BY PAUL GRAFF.

PHILADELPHIA:

1891.

PREFACE.

IN THE centennial year, 1876, I began to make inquiry about the ancestry of the Graff and Baum families. I wrote to all my brothers and sisters in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Illinois, and to other friends in the State of Indiana. As they were not able to give a satisfactory account of the families, I pursued my researches elsewhere. In the Spring of 1877, in company with my wife and daughter, I went abroad, traveling through Germany, and stopping at Neuwied, on the Rhine, the place of my father's birth. After considerable inquiry we found a person who knew something about the family. We first went to the cemetery, where we found the tombs of grandfather, Henry Graff, and a number of his children. We next visited the church of which grandfather had been a member for so many years. The minister who had charge of the Parish, brought out the records of the church, and to our great surprise we found the names and dates of the births and deaths of all the family. After visiting some cousins we found the name of Graff was extinct in the city of Neuweid. After returning to our homes in October, 1877, I continued my investigation, writing to the different members of the family again, and visiting them personally. Nearly all of them have since died. Now as I have exhausted all means of obtaining further light on our ancestry, by fourteen years of constant research, and writing over two hundred letters of inquiry, I will close in the hope that it may stimulate those who may read this biography to imitate these Christian fathers and mothers.


PAUL GRAFF.





HOUSE IN NEUWILL, GERMANY, WHERE FATHER WAS BORN.

History of the Graff Family.

HE earliest account we have is near the opening of the 17th century, when Jacob Graff lived at Grafenauer Hof Castle, near Mannheim, Germany. After this castle was destroyed in some of the wars, the family removed to Mannheim, and as far as known, he lived there until his death. As all the municipal and church records were destroyed it is not known whether his children were born at Grafenauer Castle or Mannheim. Many families of the same name are now living at the latter place.

Jacob Graff had three children at least. The eldest, born about 1726, came to America and settled near Lancaster, Pa. The second son, Henry, was born January 16th, 1736, was married February 21st, 1762, and died in 1802. The daughter Barbara was born May 31st, 1744, and married in 1767, to Nicolases Gramm. Their heirs are still living as small farmers near Neuwied, Germany. We also know of a Peter Graff, living on the Unkerhof, and married to Elizabeth Ellenberger. Their children are James Graff, born 1764, died November 15th, 1824; Daniel, born 1767 and died 1809, unmarried; Rhine Miller, time of birth and death unknown; and John, born —, died 1828, at Freisenheim.

In the records of Lancaster Co., Pa., is an account of Sebastian Graff, who died in 1791. He was prominent



in the affairs of the city of Lancaster, and must have been the son of Jacob Graff, who came to America and settled near that place. In the same records are the names of Hans, Sebastian, George, Henry and John, who must have been sons of Sebastian. On his way to Germany in 1816, Henry Graff, son of John, of Westmoreland Co., was taken sick and remained with his cousin in Lancaster Co. until his recovery, when he returned to his father's home. From all the information we can gather they must have been descendants of this same Sebastian. Henry Graff, born 1736, made a trip to America while yet a young man, perhaps, with his brother Sebastian. After accumulating some means, he returned to Germany and married Mary Friedt, who was born August 10th, 1742, and died October 23d, 1817. They settled in Neuwied, Germany. He was a man of considerable note in church and state, a devoted Christian, and held the position of President or Elder in the Menno-nite church for twenty-seven years. He was buried at Neuwied with his wife.

They had nine children as follows ; [1818.

JOHN, (our father), born 1763 ; went to U. S. A., 1783 ; died,

PAUL, born 1765 ; died young, no account of death.

CATHARINE, " 1767 ; " " " " " "

SUSANNAH, " 1768 ; " " " " " "

ELIZABETH, " 1770 ; " " " " " "

JACOB, " 1772 ; died 1849, at Neuwied.

PETER, " 1775 ; " 1842, unmarried.

ELIZABETH, " 1778 ; " 1840.

MARGARET, " 1784 ; " 1846.

Elizabeth, the eighth child, married Fred. Herrman, who died August 13th, 1840. They had ten children, two of which were still living near Neuwied, in 1888.

Margaret, the ninth child, married George Vetter, who died in 1846. Their heirs are still living.

Jacob, the sixth child married and had a number of children, but his family are all dead. The name of Graff is extinct in Neuwied, as those bearing it are all dead. John, the eldest son, came to America in 1783 with his uncle Wm. Friedt, his mother's brother. They landed in Philadelphia and went to Lancaster Co., where they spent several years with cousins. They afterwards decided to go further West, and travelled together through Dauphin, Juniata, Mifflin, Huntingdon, Blair and Cambria Counties. Wm. Friedt settled at Greensburg, the county seat of Westmoreland Co., where he resided until his death, March 9th, 1819, unmarried.

John Graff settled six miles from the county seat, where he purchased a farm of 200 acres in 1792, and lived on it until his death, Dec. 31st., 1818, at the age of 57 years. His last words were "Jesus take me quickly." He was an active business man, strictly honest in all his dealings and successful in his undertakings. He was modest and retiring in his manners, a kind and loving father, being very particular about the associates of his children and the books they read. He was a member of the German Lutheran Church near Pleasant Unity, and months before he died spent much of his time in prayer.

In 1793, he married Barbara Baum, and their children were as follows :

| | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| I. HENRY, | born May 27th, 1794 ; | died Sept. 6th, 1855. |
| II. MARY, | " Sep. 4th, 1795 ; | " Dec. 4th, 1833. |
| III. SARAH, | " May 3d, 1797 ; | " Sep. 16th, 1850. |
| IV. WILLIAM, | " Oct. 1st, 1798 ; | " Nov. 18th, 1882. |
| V. JOHN, | " Aug. 3d, 1800 ; | " Jan. 31st, 1885. |
| VI. MARGARET," | May 3d, 1802 ; | " Mar. 24th, 1885. |
| VII. JOSEPH, | " Oct. 13th, 1804 ; | " Oct. 13th, 1864. |
| VIII. ELIZABETH," | Jan. 7th, 1807 ; | " May. 16th, 1888. |
| IX. PETER, | " May 27th, 1808 ; | " April 6th, 1890. |
| X. JACOB, | " Sep. 5th, 1810 ; | " Dec. 9th, 1880. |
| XI. MATTHEW, | " Aug. 23d., 1812. | |
| XII. PAUL, | " May 31st., 1815. | |

His wife, Barbara Baum, was a descendant of the Waldensians, who suffered extreme hardships and persecutions on account of their faith.

During the religious persecutions in France, our great grandfather, Mathias Baum, concluded, with other friends, to leave his native land, Alsace, and seek a more congenial country to live in. He sailed from Rotterdam in the ship *Alice*, Hartly Cossack, Commander, and arrived in Philadelphia with his family September 3rd, 1743. Of his subsequent movements and death, we have no further information.

Our grandfather, Frederick, who was about fourteen years of age on his arrival, must have remained in Philadelphia a number of years, as our cousin Daniel Ringle said that our grandfather told him a short time

before his death in 1831, that he was a shipbuilder, and worked in a yard on the Delaware river. (Mr. Ringle was living in the State of Indiana, in 1886, at the age of eighty years on my last visit).

He must have been over twenty-one years of age when he and a family named Ullman concluded to go westward. He may have been married to Barbara Ullman before leaving Philadelphia or shortly after. They travelled through Chester, Lancaster and Cumberland counties, and partly through Franklin, locating near the Burnt Cabins in Path Valley. The white squatters had built cabins to live in. When notified by the government to leave, they burned these cabins lest the Indians who were trading and located in the valley in large numbers, should occupy them. Path Valley was named as the records of that period indicate, from the fact that the road was only a path for pack horses. It was opened by the Indians, and used at that time by traders over the mountains. The path became known as Braddock's Road.

His children were born during his residence in the valley. The Indians became very troublesome and dangerous to live among. As grandfather was a favorite among them, he was often informed of their movements, and was thus enabled to provide for the safety of his family. As the disturbances continued, and murders were committed, grandfather became alarmed and left the settlement. He crossed the Juniata and Susquehanna rivers to Duncan's Island, and northward to

Sunbury, Northumberland Co., where we next hear of him. His family must have remained there for some time, as he left them until he could find a more suitable place to live. He joined a party going north-westward. In crossing the mountains he cut notches in the trees to mark the road so that his family might be able to follow him or he might find the way back. We next hear of him at French Creek, Crawford Co. He located on a farm of two hundred acres about two miles from Meadville as one of the earliest settlers. He was absent from his family six months, and when they found him he had cleared some land and sowed grain. He made wooden troughs to hold milk and had a trough for churning butter in by the use of wooden paddles. The family were several months in crossing the mountains, and met with many difficulties. Trees were blown down, Indians were on the alert to rob or murder travellers; they were obliged to bury their goods on the way and use every precaution to prevent being murdered.

Grandfather spoke about oil he had often dipped up with a feather and was good for many things. He spoke about being in Punxsutawny. He was one of a party who took the first raft down French Creek and the Allegheny River to Pittsburg. It was said that camp meetings were held on his farm. The family evidently lived many years in the neighborhood of Meadville.

The Baums were a quiet and peaceable family, but large and powerful men. They were, however, great Indian fighters. The Indians were numerous and gave

the settlers a great deal of trouble by committing raids, robberies and murders. So there was need of constant vigilance. A story is related of the Indians coming at one time in large numbers, when word was at once sent to the Baum family. They immediately responded and were placed in the fort. The Indians advanced, whooping and howling, and as they neared the fort and found the Baums were in and around it, they quickly turned and retreated.

Our grandfather lived in Westmoreland and north-western counties until 1816, being then over eighty-five years old. He had accumulated quite a fortune for those days, and gave to his three sons as follows :

John, the eldest, who settled in St. Joseph, Missouri, six thousand dollars ; Frederick, who settled in Ohio, six thousand ; and to Jonas, a farm near Waynesburg in Stark Co., Ohio, where his son now lives. This was done with the understanding that they would furnish their parents with a comfortable home and support during their natural life. But the ungrateful sons failed to provide for their aged parents. The daughter, Barbara, our mother, who lived in Pennsylvania, hearing of their condition, arranged with her two sons, William and Matthew, to have them brought from Ohio to her home at Pleasant Unity, six miles south of Greensburg, Westmoreland Co. This was done during the cold winter months of 1829, a distance of more than one hundred and fifty miles. A two horse wagon was used with a square box bed resting on the axle without springs, as

wagons were made in those days. It was covered with muslin and furnished with plenty of straw, a feather bed and quilts to keep them warm. As it became very cold after they started, large stones were heated and placed to their feet. The trip occupied more than two weeks. Grandfather was about one hundred years old, and grandmother ninety-two. They remained only one year, as they became homesick and wished to return. They were taken back and Mrs. Ringle, a daughter, took charge of them until their death. A few days before his death grandfather insisted on walking five miles to see his son Jonas. This was too much for his strength, and not having enough vitality to rally from the exhaustion, he died in a few days. This was in 1831, and his age one hundred and three years. Grandmother lived four years longer and died in 1835, aged ninety-seven years. The children were as follows :

JOHN BAUM, emigrated to St. Joseph, Missouri, and died there.

In 1886 some of his children were living in Indiana,

| | | |
|------------|----------|-----------------------|
| FREDERICK, | married, | died in Ohio. |
| JONAS, | " | " " " Stark Co. |
| CATHARINE, | " | Michal, " " Kentucky. |
| SUSAN, | " | Bair, " " Michigan. |
| MARY, | " | Ringle, " " Ohio. |
| ELIZABETH, | " | Vanosten, " " " |
| BARBARA, | | |

Barbara was born in 1775, made captive in 1783, married to John Graff in 1793, and died March 12th, 1841. The place of her birth was near the Burnt Cabins



in Path Valley. It was a wilderness where Indians were lurking and seeking whom they might devour. She was captured while out in the woods, a short distance from home, and carried off several miles to their huts by a party of Indians. She would have been scalped and murdered, perhaps, had it not been for an old Indian who, when starving in the cold winter months, had received kindness from the family. On returning home in the evening he recognized the little nine year old girl and plead for her release. After considerable Indian talk he pinned up her clothes and told her to run for her life, and doing so she made her escape. She was a child of God early in life and lived with friends who were devoted followers of Christ. She loved to hear the word of God read and the prayers which were offered in his house. God spared her life through many hardships and narrow escapes for some wise purpose. At the age of eighteen she was married to John Graff in 1793 and became the mother of twelve children. Twenty-five years after her marriage she was left a widow with the care of a large farm and family. The children were all at home, and the three eldest sons assisted her in the management of affairs. She was a member of the United Brethren Church. Many incidents are related of her Christian life which show her to have been a devoted Christian. Among other conversations told by her son John was one shortly before her death, in which she mentioned her great admiration for flowers. While turning over the flowers and leaves, and examining



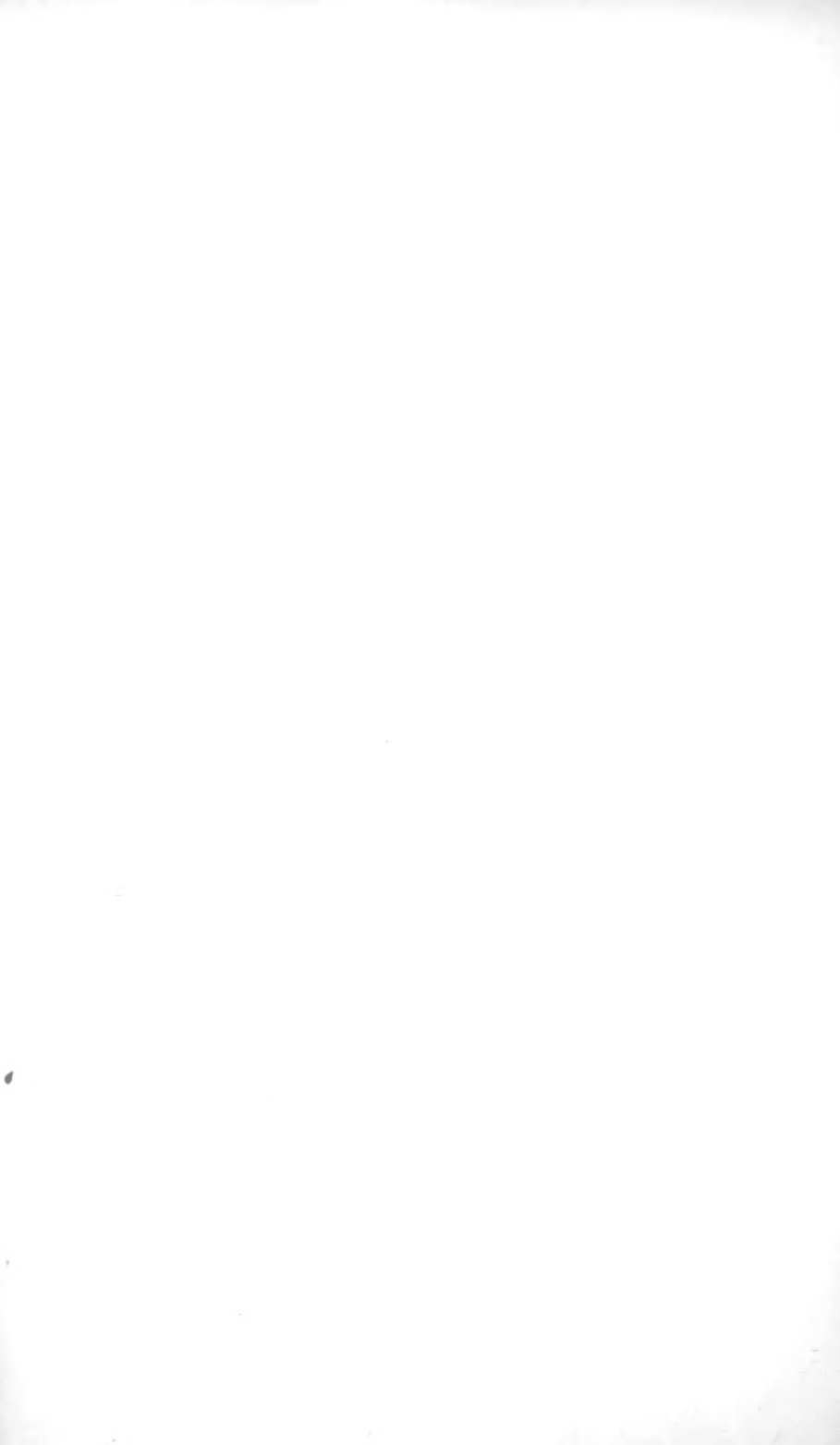
every little fibre she spoke enthusiastically of the beauties with which God had blessed us. But said this feeling had passed away and she had lost all interest in the beauties of earth. The reason she gave was that death was near at hand, and now her thoughts were ever turned upon the beauties of heaven and the glory she would soon enjoy with her blessed Lord.

In a letter written by her son John in 1878, he says her Christian character and influence were not excelled by any woman of my acquaintance. He does not know the exact time of her conversion. She was charitable in giving and also in forgiving any who had either injured her or in any way deviated from the path of rectitude. She spent much time in prayer for herself and her children. She would go to some quiet room in the house and pray for them by name until she had named the whole family and believed she had the promise of God that all would be saved.

Her son Peter says he cannot tell when she was converted; but one thing he could say that when he was a little boy she prayed him asleep many nights.

William says she was a Christian when a little girl.

I, Paul, add the following: She was the mother of twelve children, eight sons and four daughters. One son died when a child. All the others grew up to man and womanhood during her life time. Her Christian influence grew with them, so that at her death, or soon after all were Christians. Her Christian work was not confined to her family but extended all through the



neighborhood where she lived ; and I trust will continue to have its influence for ages to come. I was but a boy when at home with my dear mother, but can well remember many of her pious acts. Often have I heard her in the night, when she thought all were asleep, praying and pleading with God for hours in some quiet room for the conversion of her children and friends. When a boy eight or nine years old I went with her about five miles to see one of her daughters. She always rode on horseback and I had to ride behind, and as we went jogging along it took us about two hours. Her conversation during the whole journey was about her conversion and experiences in the Christian life. How happy she was and what joys she expected in meeting her Heavenly Father. She also gave me a description of heaven in her simple way of explaining it. The golden street she expected to walk upon. The robes and crown which would be placed upon her. The songs of praise she would hear and enjoy. Then exhorted and plead with me to give myself to the Saviour, be a child of God and meet her in heaven.

The last visit to my dear mother was on the first day of March, 1841. Shortly after our marriage, I, in company with my wife, drove over in a sleigh from Blairsville, Pa., to her home, near Pleasant Unity, a distance of twenty miles. We stopped at brother William's, and after warming ourselves and eating supper, we walked over to mother's house, it being but a short distance. On entering her chamber where she had been confined

for about ten days, she greeted us in a most loving and affectionate manner. We spent the evening and the next morning with her. When fearing the snow might leave us, we took our departure earlier than we expected, she gave us an affectionate farewell. I had no idea when we left that it would be the last time I should ever see her. But, alas, it was so. In a day or two she became very ill, and continued growing more feeble until the 12th, when she passed away. We returned to Blairsville on our way over the mountains to Hollidaysburg, where we expected to make our home. On the 15th I received a letter informing us of her death. Many years have passed since this Christian mother went to her Heavenly home, but her influence and Christian example were so deeply impressed in the hearts and lives of all her children, that they have all been prominent in all Christian work, as the short history given of their lives will show.

This letter was written to Peter, in Pittsburg:

AT THE OLD HOME NEAR PLEASANT UNITY,
April 20th, 1836.

TO MY SON PETER, HIS WIFE SUSAN, AND LITTLE CHILDREN:

I have received your kind present, which made me lie at the feet of Jesus, with humble gratitude. O, may the lord fulfill his promise by giving you long life, and bless your soul.

Are you seeking the lord, while he may be found? Make peace with your Redeemer while you are in the land of the living, as we cannot tell how soon the Lord may call us from time to eternity. Turn to God and you will find peace in the blood of the Lamb.



Call upon him until he prepares you for the Kingdom of Heaven. Delay not your conversion. Get an interest in the Lord as soon as possible by earnest prayer and faith.

Remember him who has said many shall seek to enter in and not be able; let your fellowship be with the Father and his Son, Jesus Christ.

Walk in the light as God is in the light, and the blood of Christ Jesus shall cleanse you from all sin. O, my son, you must strive to enter in; agonize with all your power; there is nothing else that will support you in a dying hour. Remember riches will not profit in the day of death; lay up your treasure in Heaven, and get your heart set on things above, and then the appearance of Christ will be joyful to you, because he will give you possession of Heaven. Be often on your knees and earnest with the Lord, pray without ceasing, and then shall the Lord Jesus come and show us his glory, when the righteous shall shine as the sun in the Kingdom of their Father's house above to go out no more. My dear son, your kind love made me think I could write. I would be glad if you can read these few lines.

My hand trembles so much I have to take both hands to shape a letter. A poor speller, a weak head, a bad pen, a faint heart, a trembling hand, but still I do the best I can. O that the Lord would renew my strength like the eagle, that I might learn more wisdom. Lord Jesus, Amen.

Yours in real affection,

MOTHER B. GRAFF.

SCRAPS FROM OLD PAPERS OF MOTHER BARBARA GRAFF'S
WRITING.

Believers, what is Life? The end of it is but a living death, or dying life. It is full of grief for things past, full of labor for things

future. The first part of our life is spent in folly; the middle part is overwhelmed with cares, and the latter part of it is burdened with cares, infirmities, and age; and what gain we by prolonging this life? Nothing but to suffer more evil; and should a Christian be willing to be rid of these grievances? Consider that dying is appointed as the only way to glory. There is no way to enter the promised land but by crossing the Jordan of death, and rest.

O how I wander up and down, no one to pity me,
I seem a stranger quite undone, a child of misery.
None lend an ear to my complaint, nor mind my cries nor tears,
None come to cheer me, though I faint nor burdens bear,
While others live in joy and mirth, and feel no want nor woe,
I in this howling wilderness, still full of sorrow go.
O, faithless soul to reason thus, and murmur without end,
And has Christ expired upon the cross, and is he not thy friend?
The time is short, ye saints rejoice, the Lord will quickly come,
Soon shall you hear the bridegroom voice to call you to your home,
The time is short, the day is near, that you shall dwell above,
And be forever happy then with Jesus whom you love.

Now when death is at hand, let not my Saviour be afar off.
He who remembered the dying thief, and spoke comfortingly to him, now remember me.

Take my soul and body's powers,
Take my memory, mind and will,
All my goods and all my hours,
All I know or speak or do,
Take my heart but make it new.

Straight is the gate and narrow is the way which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.



Let us ever remember that :

Thou, Oh, Lord, in tender love, dost all my burden bear ;
Lift my heart to things above, and fix it ever there.

The heart knoweth his own bitterness, and a stranger doth not intermeddle with his joy.

The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked.
Who can know it ? I, the Lord.

Sometimes tempests blow a dreadful hurricane,
And high the waters flow, and o'er my sides break in,
But still my little ship outbraves
The bursting winds and surging waves.
But when a heavenly breeze springs up and fills my sail,
My vessel goes with ease before the pleasant gale,
And runs as much an hour or more
As in a month or two before.

Rev. 14 chap., 13 verse.—Blessd are the dead which die in the Lord. From henceforth, yea saith the spirit, that they may rest from their labours, and their works do follow them.







HENRY GRAVEL.

I.—HENRY GRAFF.

HENRY GRAFF, the eldest son of John and Barbara Graff, was born May 27th, 1794, and died September 9th, 1855. On September 19th, 1820, he married Elizabeth Lobingier, who was born April 3rd, 1800, and died July 19th, 1860. They were both buried at Pittsburg.

The birthplace of Henry was the old farm near Pleasant Unity, Westmoreland Co., Pa. From the time he was old enough until he was twenty years of age, he assisted his father in farming. After the death of his grandfather Henry Graff, in Germany, his father gave him a power of attorney and sent him there to settle and receive his share of the estate. He returned just before his father's death, which occurred December 31st, 1818. Before leaving Germany, he purchased a great many farming utensils, such as hay forks, shovels, spades, cutting-knives, scythes, &c. As these articles were scarce and high here, they were sold at a handsome profit. Among the articles which came from grandfather's estate were tea and table spoons of silver, and a valuable old clock which played a number of tunes, and struck quarters, half hours and hours. It was of the grandfather style, and was said to be an old clock when grandfather purchased it in 1760. It and the spoons still remain in the family.

In 1822 he commenced business in Pleasant Unity by keeping a country store, consisting of dry goods, groceries,

iron, fish, salt, &c. His goods had to be hauled in wagons from Philadelphia and Baltimore. As it took several weeks to transport them, the shipment was both tedious and expensive. He remained at Pleasant Unity about eleven years, and while there he taught his brothers Peter and Matthew the business. His business prospered, and in order to give his brothers an interest in it, he extended it and placed Peter in the small village of New Derry, about ten miles east of Greensburg. After several years of success, Peter sold out and located at Blairsville, Indiana Co. Henry then sold his Pleasant Unity store to John, his brother, and moved to Blairsville, where he and Peter formed a partnership and traded under the firm name of Henry and Peter Graff. This was about the year 1833. They did a very extensive and profitable business, and built a large grain house on the Conemaugh river in the town. A year or two afterwards Matthew was given an interest in the business.

In 1836 Henry and Peter commenced the transportation of merchandise by railroad and canal, from Philadelphia and Baltimore, to Pittsburg and the west. The line was called the Union Transportation Line. Merchandise was carried by rail to Columbia, then by canal boat to Hollidaysburg, then by rail over the Alleghany mountains to Johnstown, then by canal to Pittsburg, 103 miles. The canal and railroad were owned by the State of Pennsylvania.

Peter moved to Pittsburg and attended to receiving and forwarding the merchandise. In a year or two the

forwarding business rapidly increased, and Henry also moved to Pittsburg, and he and Peter gave their whole attention to the business. A year afterwards he commenced the manufacturing of iron. He was a man of foresight, and was very successful in the iron business. He was a thoughtful and Christian man. One of the noble acts of his life in connection with his brother Peter, was stopping the running of canal boats on the Sabbath. The Philadelphia partners who were connected with the line—not having the same Christian views—were very much opposed to the project. The brothers, however, insisted on a trial, so when the Sabbath came, boats were stopped (tied up as they called it), and man and beast rested on the Lord's day. The other transportation lines continued to run their boats as usual. The union line had posters put up at all public places in Philadelphia, Baltimore and the west, that they would stop on the Sabbath, and require a day longer to carry goods to Pittsburg. This went on for a few months, when the other lines were obliged to adopt the same policy, as the merchants preferred the line which rested on the Lord's day.

Henry continued in the transportation business for many years until the state sold out the canal and railroad in 1853. A Pittsburg paper said he was one of the leading citizens and the most active and successful commission merchant and iron manufacturer of the city. He was also successful in starting all his sons in business before his death, which occurred in 1855. He was for

many years a member of the Lutheran church, and one of the church pillars. He was a liberal giver to his home church, and before his death, made a large contribution to the seminary at Gettysburg, Pa.

CHILDREN OF HENRY AND ELIZABETH GRAFF.

No. 1.—JOHN, born January 14th, 1822 ; unmarried.

No. 2.—CHRISTOPHER, born October 2d, 1823.

He married Arabella Blackmore, May 15th, 1858. She was born April 7th, 1839, died April 16th, 1866. Their children are :

WM. HENRY, born August 7th, 1859.

JOHN C., born August 18th, 1861.

ELIZABETH LOBENGIN, born January 24th, 1864.

No. 3.—PRISCILLA SOPHIA, born March 31st, 1825.

She was married to Paul Hugus, who was born Sept. 29th, 1812, and died March 21st, 1879. Their children are :

HENRY GRAFF, born April 3d, 1847.

EDWARD REED, born August 22d, 1848.

ANNIE MARY, born February 17th, 1850.

Edward married Lottie McClelland, who died. Second marriage, Nancy Doak ; no children.

Anna Mary married Heberton C. Negley, their children are :

PAUL H., born

EDWARD H., born

JOHN C., born July 29th, 1855 ; died young.

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No. 4.—WILLIAM GRAFF, born December 27th, 1822.

He married Isabella Coffin. Their children are :

ELIZABETH, born

ANNA MARY, born

No. 5.—ALEXANDER GRAFF, born Nov. 10th, 1824; unmarried.

No. 6.—THOS. I. GRAFF, born Oct. 26th, 1832; died Apr. 21st, 1890.

He married Agnes C. Dixon June 25th, 1863, who was born August 17th, 1847.

Their children are eight in number as follows :

JOHN DIXON, born June 1st, 1864.

HENRY L., " " 18th, 1865.

BENNETT, " Mar. 5th, 1867.

PAUL HUGUS, " June 29th, 1869.

THOMAS EWING, " Aug. 21st, 1871.

JAMES WAY, " May 25th, 1873.

MATTHEW ADDISON, " Aug. 23d, 1876.

AGNES P., " June 11th, 1878.

No. 7.—MATTHEW GRAFF, born November 1st, 1834.

He married Jane Addison, who was born 1839, and died Jan. 1st, 1880. They had seven children :

HENRY ADDISON, born Dec. 6th, 1863.

HARRIET DUGLAS, " Oct. 1st, 1865.

MARY K., " Dec. 19th, 1867.

WM. A. ADDISON, " Jan. 22d, 1871.

BENJ. DALRINGTON " June 4th, 1877.

Died December 22d, 1879.

RICHMAN McCLURG, born June 4th, 1877.

FRANCIS ERSKINE, " Mar. 12th, 1879.

Harriet married Robt R. Singer. April 30th, 1889. Children:

JOHN ADDISON SINGER, born April 23d, 1890.

No. 8.—ANNA MARY, born March 12th, 1837.

She married John M. Kirkpatrick, and her second husband Wm. Pore. No children.

No. 9.—ELIZABETH, born April 29th, 1842; died Jan. 19th, 1855.

II.—MARY GRAFF.

MARY, the second child and eldest daughter of John and Barbara Graff, was born Sept. 4th 1795, and died Dec. 4th, 1833. She was married to Jacob Lose, who was born June 8th, 1785, and died Dec. 4th, 1820. She afterwards married John Lose, and lived near Pittsburg. At her death she was buried at Homewood, Pa. She was a devoted Christian, a member of the M. E. Church, and for many years conducted family worship regularly in her own house. John, her eldest son says she prayed much and was very particular in training her children to become Christians and live a Godly life.

CHILDREN OF JACOB AND MARY LOSE.

No. 1.—JOHN G., born July 10th, 1814.

He married Elizabeth L. Smith, who was born April 11th, 1818. Their first child, Elizabeth, born July 29th, 1839, was married to Robert Waddle, March 2d, 1863. Their children are as follows:

GEORGE EDWARD, born Nov. 29th, 1863.

ANNIE MARY, " Aug. 22d, 1866.

CHAS. FRANKLIN, " Nov. 27th, 1868.

MILTON HOWARD, " Aug. 10th, 1871.

WILLIAM B., born Aug. 22d, 1873; died Aug. 12th, 1874.

LIDA MARY, " Feb. 2d, 1876; " Aug. 5th, 1870.

OLIVE BLANCHE, born Aug. 12th, 1877.

JESSIE BELL, " Aug. 12th, 1880.

ANNA, second daughter of John and Elizabeth Lose, was born Oct. 5th, 1844, and married to George B. Milholland Dec. 18th, 1866. Their children are:

JENNIE BOWER, born Sept. 28th, 1867.

JOHN LOSE, born April 15th, 1871; died March 20th, 1881.

ANNA, born April 25th, 1873.

GEORGE, " Feb. 3rd, 1875; " Jan. 11th, 1884.

PORTER KERR, " " 26th, 1877; " June 16th, 1878.

MARY ESTHER, born April 13th, 1879; died March 27th, 1881.

WILLIAM S., born Nov. 28th, 1882.

JAMES CONNELL, " " " "

MARTHA LOGAN, " Oct. 21st, 1884.

WM. HENRY, son of John and Elizabeth Lose, was born Oct. 20th, 1849. He married Rhoda Mary Wells March 20th, 1875. Their children are:

ANNIE ELIZA, born March 3rd, 1876.

JENNIE ORLEAN, born Feb. 8th, 1878; died Jan. 6th, 1883.

REX WELL, " " 24th, 1880; " " 2nd, "

MORRIS GRAFF, " Jan. 16th, 1882; " Dec. 23d, 1882.

No. 2.—GEORGE, the second son of Jacob and Mary Lose, was born Oct. 11th, 1816. He married Margaret Armel, Feb. 19th, 1838. She was born May 1st, 1822, and died April 2nd, 1845. They had three children:

(1) SARAH E., was born March 16th, 1840. She married T. J. Hammer, Nov. 10th, 1858. Their children are Margaret, Lydia, all married and living in Missouri.

(2) ARMEL, born July 1st, 1842; died Aug. 11th, 1842.

(3) CHRISTOPHER G., born March 21st, 1845, and died in the army Dec. 12th, 1864.

GEORGE LOSE was married a second time, Jan. 2nd, 1848, to Margaret Elder, who was born Sep. 22nd, 1830.

Their children were (1) Charles R., born Nov. 12th, 1849. He married Libbie S. Touch, Sep. 22nd, 1875. To them were born four children :

GEORGE L., born Sep. 18th, 1876.

SALLIE E., " July 1878.

WILLIAM L., " Jan. 29th, 1882.

MARGARET E., " Aug. 1885.

(2) JACOB ELDER, born Nov. 25th, 1851. He married Sadie C. Graham June 28th, 1881. They have two children :

EMMA V., born April 17th, 1882.

ROBERT G. " Oct. 15th, 1883.

(3) MARY ELDER, born Sep. 11th, 1854, was married to J. Osborne, Dec. 25th, 1885. They have two children :

MARGARET LOSE, born Sept. 21st, 1884.

ROBERT MILTON, " Oct. 18th, 1886.

(4) VIOLET, born Jan. 4th, 1859.

(5) EMMA I. born May 31st, 1860, was married to P. R. Douglas, March 17th, 1886.

(6) GEORGE, JR., born May 6th, 1863.

(7) ANNACT, born June 10th, 1872.

No. 3.—JACOB LOSE, born May 17th, 1818; died 1873, at Mobile,

(3) VIRGINIA was born July 11th, 1845; died Sept. 2nd, 1848.

(4) EMMA L., was born Oct. 3rd, 1848. She was married Aug. 12th, 1869, to Rufus McClain, who was born March 20th, 1842. Children:

JOHN REED, born June 27th, 1870; died , 1880.

ED. C., born Nov. 27th, 1882.

Mr. McClain was a soldier during the civil war, and is now a farmer living in Kansas.

(5) JOSEPH DEMPSEY was born March 1st, 1851. He married Nevada A. Chandler, April 11th, 1875. She was born Dec. 4th, 1854. Their children are:

JOSEPH CLYDE, born June 30th, 1876.

JESSE E., " Aug. 26th, 1877.

LILLY C., " Nov. 3rd, 1878.

ALBERT E., " Mar. 29th, 1880.

FORED, born Sep. 9th, 1881; died Nov. 1881.

Mr. Reed is a merchant in Belle Plain, Kansas.

(6) JOHN LOCKE, born April 3rd, 1854; died Nov. 1854.

(7) SARAH KATE, born Nov. 27th, 1855; died Sept. 1st, 1859.

(8) WM. LEVI, born Jan. 11th, 1859, is now living in Belle Plain, Kansas.

(9) SEGEL CURTIS, born March 12th, 1862. He married Kate E. Cully, Oct. 8th, 1882.

(10) INFANT SOX, born and died June 25th, 1865.

No. 5.—LEVI LOSE was born Feb. 24th, 1802.

He married Susan Fisher March 4th, 1842. She was born June 24th, 1822, and died Nov. 1st, 1862. Their children and grandchildren are as follows:

(1) WESLEY F., born April 11th, 1844. On Dec. 3rd, 1865, he married Rachel Fugit, who was born Sept. 26th, 1837. They had four children:

| | |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| JENNIE, | born Dec. 19th, 1866. |
| CLARA, | " Sept. 4th, 1868. |
| MURRY D. | " Oct. 20th, 1872. |
| ROBERT LEVI, | " Nov. 11th, 1878. |

(2) SARAH ANN, born Jan. 31st, 1847. On Jan. 14th, 1893, she was married to John Johnston, who was born Dec. 25th, 1842. Children:

| | |
|-------------|---|
| SUSAN, | born Nov. 28th, 1863. |
| JANE, | " Sept. 22nd, 1867. |
| MARY A., | born Feb. 15th, 1870; died March 1st, 1873. |
| GEORGE | " Sept. 10th, 1873; " Oct. 18th, 1874. |
| EMMA E., | born Jan. 10th, 1874. |
| FRANKIE L., | " Sept. 7th, 1875. |
| JAMES L., | " Apr. 7th, 1878. |

(3) EMMA E., born Aug. 19th, 1849. On Nov. 30th, 1865, she was married to Joseph Bunn, who was born Aug. 23rd, 1849. Children:

| | |
|-------------|---|
| EMMA R., | born Jan. 14th, 1867; died Jan. 19th, 1874. |
| INFANT SON, | " Feb. 19th, 1869; " Feb. 19th, 1869. |
| WILLIAM, | born Feb. 13th, 1870. |

MARY ANN, born April 28th, 1872; died Oct. 22nd, 1874.

INFANT SON, " Mar. 24th, 1874; " Mar. 24th, 1874.

SILAS NYE, " July 13th, 1875; " Sept. 8th, 1875.

EDWARD, born Dec. 30th, 1876.

JOSEPH F., born Sept. 10th, 1878; died Mar. 2nd, 1881.

CHARLES H., born Jan. 3rd, 1881; died Jan. 3rd, 1881.

BERTIE O., born Jan. 31st, 1882.

RICHARD, " Feb. 15th, 1884.

Jesse O., " Mar. 5th, 1886.

ADOLPHUS, born Aug. 31st, 1861; remains single.

(4) On Jan. 28th, 1863, Levi Lose married as his second wife, Sarah Fugit, who was born June 25th, 1828. Children.

(5) RACHEL C., born Jan. 20th, 1864. She was married to Frederick Hawk, Nov. 27th, 1880. Their child Lirrie was born Jan. 18th, 1881. Mrs. Hawk was again married to Hansford W. Eggleston, Sept. 27th, 1885. Mr. Eggleston was born March, 18th, 1859. Their children were:

JESSIE AND BESSIE, born July 16th, 1886.

(6) WM. SHERMAN, born Feb. 3rd, 1865; remains single.

(7) ELLA E., born May, 28th 1868; remains single.

III.—SARAH GRAFF.

SARAH GRAFF, the third child and second daughter of John and Barbara Graff, was born May 3d, 1797 ; died Sept. 16th, 1850. She married Daniel Barnes Dec. 19th, 1820. He died in Aug. 1858. They are both buried at Johnstown, Pa.

They were members of the M. E. Church. She was a devoted Christian woman and spent much of her time in Christian work. During the season for camp-meetings they were always among the first to pitch their tents and be ready for work. Many Christian people enjoyed a good meal at their table.

Children and grandchildren as follows :

No. 1.—MARGARET GRAFF, born Apr. 14th, 1823 ; died, 1845.

No. 2.—JOHN W. GRAFF, born Nov. 7th, 1824.

He was married Dec. 30th, 1847 to Kezia Cooper, who was born Feb. 17th, 1830. Children :

(1) WILBUR A., born Nov. 14th, 1848 ; married Helan Gayland Feb. 14th, 1881. Their child Elizabeth was born March, 1882.

(2) SARAH J., born Sept. 21st, 1850 ; married Wm. F. Ritchie April 14th, 1870. Their two children are Hattie J., born May 1871, and Addison C., born Sep. 1875 ; died Jan. 16th, 1884.

(3) ALMIRA C., born July 8th 1852 ; married David McCullough June 29th, 1873. Six Children :



| | |
|------------|-------------------|
| WM. E., | born April, 1874. |
| JOHN H., | " July, 1876. |
| JOSEPH O., | " April, 1879. |
| KEZIA M., | " July, 1881. |
| ANNIE M., | " Mar., 1883. |
| JESSIE F., | " May, 1885. |

(4) LOVENIA A., born Aug. 30th, 1854; married James W. Thompson Oct. 16th, 1877. One child, Walter W., was born July 1878.

(5) HENRY B., born Sep. 11th, 1856. Married Sadie E. Jameson Dec. 22d, 1880. Three children:

| | |
|------------|------------------------------------|
| ROBERT W., | born April, 1882; died June, 1882. |
| JESSIE C., | " June, 1883; " Jan. 1884. |
| ORA C., | " Feb. 1885. |

(6) JAMES C., born Sep. 11th, 1856, (twin brother of Henry B.) married Mattie E. Jameson Dec. 22d, 1880. Two children:

| | |
|-------------|------------------|
| MAUD K., | born July, 1882. |
| FRANCIS E., | " Mar. 1885. |

(7) SAMUEL W., born Aug. 20th, 1860. Married Mary E. Dent, Sept. 17th, 1885.

(8) JOSEPH G., born Oct. 10th, 1862.

(9) REBECCA M., " Dec., 23d, 1865.

(10) AMANDA M., " Mar. 24th, 1868.

No. 3.—ELIZABETH BARNES, born Feb. 6th, 1827; died Jan. 20th, 1868. Married Joseph P. Graham, born Nov. 9th, 1848.

Nine children:

(1) DAN'L H., born Nov. 13th, 1849; died Oct. 27th, 1855.

(8) FORD, " Jan. 9th, 1871.

(9) LUCIUS and ELLA, born Dec. 13th, 1873.

(10) Child, born 1855; died in infancy.

No. 5.—LUCY BARNES, born Oct. 31st, 1831.

Lucy married Jacob Trefts, July 2d, 1851; nine children.

(1) DANIEL, born Aug. 5th, 1852; died 1853.

(2) ADAM, born Feb. 7th, 1854.

Adam married Clara Hess, Dec 23rd, 1879; one child.

WALTER, born Feb. 11th, 1881.

(3) CHARLES, born Aug. 29th, 1856.

Charles married Augusta Elfers, Jan. 1st, 1883.

EDGAR, J., born April 1st, 1885.

(4) GEO., born Jan. 30th, 1859; died 1860.

(5) EDWARD, born May 19th, 1861.

(6) MARY, born Oct. 18th, 1864.

Mary married Henry Hairs June 16th, 1885.

(7) FRANK, born Sept. 5th, 1856; died Sept. 22d, 1880.

(8) ANNIE, born Sept. 18th, 1868.

(9) RALPH, born July 30th, 1871.

No. 6.—BARBARA, born Jan. 13th, 1834.

No. 7.—ALEX., born 1838; drowned April, 1853.

No. 8.—WM. GRAFF, died in infancy.

No. 9.—PAUL GRAFF, " "





WILLIAM GRAFF.

IV.—WILLIAM GRAFF.

WILLIAM GRAFF, the second son of John and Barbara Graff, was born Oct. 1st, 1798, died Nov., 1882. He married Sarah Reed, who was born March 8th, 1804, and died Aug. 24th, 1881. Both buried at Pleasant Unity, Westmoreland county, Pa. They had no children.

He was one of the brothers, who, after his father's death, continued with his mother on the farm, doing the principle farming, after his marriage which occurred February 26th, 1826. He then took charge of the Poor-man farm about one-half mile south of Pleasant Unity. After his mother's death he purchased it, and lived on it until his death.

Wm. Graff was a devoted Christian and an active member of the M. E. Church for fifty-four years. His wife was converted and joined the church first. She insisted on her husband seeking an interest in Christ, but he said he could not pray. She told him to get down on his knees and she would pray for him. They both knelt down; she prayed and he cried unto the Lord until his cries were heard. He was a man of great energy of character, and this appeared in his Christian life. He prayed much both at home and with his brethren. Once when returning home from a visit to his brother's, and waiting at the R. R. Station, he went into the room and found a number of men playing cards. He stood and looked at them a moment and then said: "Men, do you

know the Lord sees you," and then turned away. At another time a friend riding with him in the country ; said Bro. Graff, "we will stop here a few minutes." At this he called for a Bible, read a long chapter and prayed a long prayer. He stopped and prayed twice at least, and they did not get home until late at night. He paid a visit to his minister and after the usual greeting and inquiry about church matters he said : " Brother, give me a Bible and I will read a chapter and pray before leaving." These may be called eccentricities, but they indicate the earnestness of his religious life.

The following obituary was published after his death :

OBITUARY.

The death of Wm. Graff on Saturday, Nov. 18, 1882, at his home near Pleasant Unity, removes the last of a very remarkable family from among the citizens of this county. Wm. Graff was the second born of seven sons and four daughters, all of whom lived to be married.

John Graff, the father, owned and lived on the farm on which Mr. Blank now resides. He also owned the farm on which Wm. lived and died. The father died Dec. 31, 1818, aged 57 years.

Barbara, the mother, died March 12, 1841, aged 66 years. She is still remembered in this community as a woman of extraordinary piety. Many remember to have heard her voice in prayer, in the night, as they passed her house. Her habit was to take her children in order and by name present their case to God, wrestling with Him for each until she felt she had prevailed and they would be saved.

No wonder that a family on whose childhood descended the

baptism of such prayers from such a mother, should be prominent among men and useful in the church.

Henry Graff, deceased, began business as a merchant, in Pleasant Unity, but removed to Pittsburg, where he was a prominent "forwarding merchant." His family are among the leading business men of that city to-day.

John Graff also began as a merchant in our town, but removed to Blairsville, where he still lives a hale old man, never sick an hour in his life, a patriarch in the town, and one of the fathers of the M. E. Church. His sons are among the solid men of that community.

Peter Graff is a very successful business man of Armstrong county, Pa., and an officer in the Lutheran Church. His sons bid fair even to surpass their father as wealth getters.

Jacob Graff, at one time a hatter in this town, again a mill owner near Derry, is now a mill owner in Illinois, and a member of the M. E. Church.

Matthew Graff is a merchant near Alliance, Ohio, and an elder in the Presbyterian Church.

Paul Graff, the well known wholesale shoe dealer of Philadelphia, is also an elder of the Presbyterian Church. Of the daughters, Mrs. Lose and Mrs. Barnes have been dead for years, but their offspring may be found somewhere near Johnstown, Pa., and many in different parts of the west. Mrs. Colleasure, widow of an elder of the Presbyterian Church, and Mrs. Armstrong are living in Illinois.

Wm. Graff was born October 10th, 1798, died November 18th, 1882, and was married to Sarah R. Read, February 26th, 1826, by Rev. N. P. Hacke. She died August 24th, 1881. Though they were never blessed with children of their own during their life together, several found a home with them and a place in their

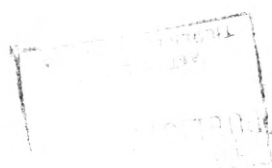
hearts. They lived a quiet, happy life together for 55½ years. They died a little more than a year apart, rejoicing in the Christian's hope.

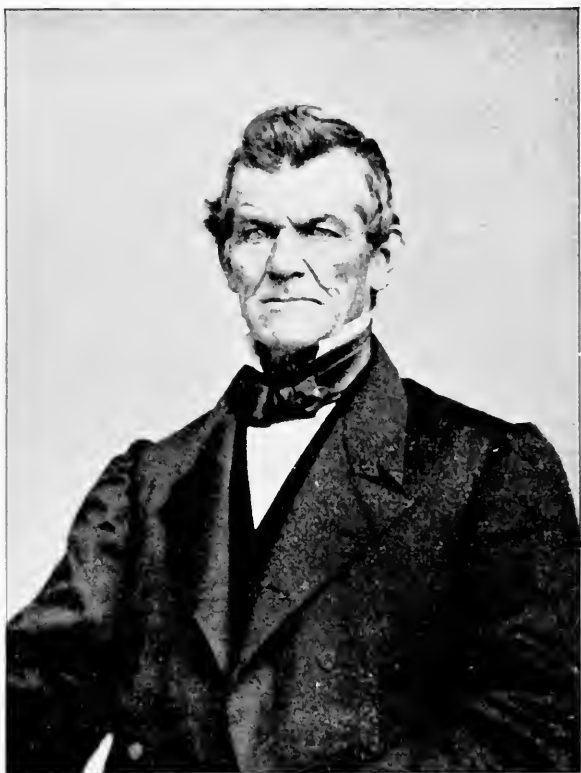
Bro. Graff was a zealous member of the M. E. Church, of Pleasant Unity, for 54 years. His religious convictions were very positive, and he was very free to express them. He was in the habit of visiting his neighbors and praying with their families. Many who in health thought him fanatical, were glad to have him sing and pray with them when sick or dying.

Brother Graff was kindly nursed by Miss Mary Wyand, who has been in the family for over ten years, and his nephew, Mr. Reed, of Kansas.

An interesting and impressive funeral service, conducted by Rev. McCurdy, his pastor, assisted by Rev. Ferrer, of the Reformed church, was held in the M. E. church, Tuesday Nov. 21st, at 11 a. m., before a very large congregation of the friends and neighbors.

While the casket was being placed before the altar, a choir of young girls, led by E. G. Walter, sang softly "Asleep in Jesus." The pastor then read the ritual and Rev. Ferrer offered prayer. The congregation sang, "We Know by Faith We Know." After reading Second Corinthians 5th, 1-7, Rev. McCurdy spoke for thirty minutes of the religious convictions and life of the departed. The congregation then sang a hymn. The remains were then taken to the old Bethel church yard, by the side of his wife.





JOHN GRAFF.

V.—JOHN GRAFF.

JOHN GRAFF, the third son of John and Barbara Graff, was born August 3rd, 1800, near Pleasant Unity, Westmoreland Co., Pa. Beginning life almost with the beginning of our Republic, he drank in its early spirit of enterprise, patriotism and love of liberty. His entire life became a picture of "strength and beauty." He inherited a strong physical constitution, which was early developed by the work and fare of farm life. He maintained his great strength until the natural decay of old age, and remained until death, as erect in form as he had been upright in character. With him the wants of his physical nature were always an interesting study. He never assumed to have the knowledge of a doctor, but such was his understanding of the human system, and the confidence of others in his judgment in cases of sickness, that, whenever any of his grandchildren were taken sick, the first thing to do was to "send for Grandfather."

Little can be said of his school life. He attended the subscription school of his day, and for two months in each of the winters, when he was sixteen and seventeen years old, he attended the Greensburg Academy. Limited though his time for study was, he yet laid a good foundation for the future, and became thoroughly imbued with a desire to learn. This desire never left him, but became one of the striking characteristics of his life. Whatever of his success is to be attributed to his own persistent

effort, the right direction of that effort is largely due to the strong life and character of his mother. Strong in body, and just as strong in spirit, walking daily in the strength of the Lord.

John remained on the farm until 1833, his father having died Dec. 31st, 1818. While on the farm at the age of twenty-four, he married Lucy Sophia Hacke, of Baltimore. She was but a girl, and knew literally nothing about farm life, but she became a true helpmate to him. She died March 4th, 1877, at the age of seventy-one.

During his stay on the farm, an incident occurred which clearly illustrates one of the traits of his character.

A distillery was attached to the farm, as was common in those days. He observed that men became intoxicated by the use of the liquor, and believing it was wrong, decided that it should not be manufactured there any longer.

Ever after he was a staunch friend of the temperance cause, holding in that early day temperance principles that were fifty years ahead of his times.

On quitting the farm, he entered the mercantile business in Pleasant Unity. Here he stayed for three years, until 1837, when he moved to Blairsville, Pa., and purchased a half-interest in the warehouse built by his brothers Henry and Peter. In 1847 he assumed control of the entire business, and continued in it until his death. The business rapidly increased until nearly all the produce of Indiana and Westmoreland Counties passed through his hands. Two other houses were put up on the banks of the old canal. Business relations brought

him into contact with men far and near. He won the respect and confidence of all. It was in this hand to hand contact with men that he impressed upon them his own strong convictions on all questions of public interest.

His method of impressing the truth was peculiar. His object was, not to make men angry, but to bring them to his way of thinking. He could reason, and reason well, but he preferred, like Abraham Lincoln, to let the light into men's minds by some laughable anecdote which served as an illustration.

His habit was to earnestly seek for the right in any disputed question. When found, he followed it wherever it led, no matter what the opposition might be. This habit of searching for the truth and adopting it with all his heart, generally led him to advanced grounds on all great questions, and hence ahead of his age. This made him a leader of opinion, and also a leader of men.

In his early manhood, he very materially aided in securing the system of free schools in the township where he lived.

More than anywhere else his strong convictions and the strong stand which he made for them was shown in his attitude toward the slavery question. In the agitation of that great cause, it soon became a question among the churches whether a man could be a consistent Christian, and at the same time a supporter of a political party which did not favor the abolition of the slaves. Although he granted men full liberty of opinion, yet his own political attitude was such as to be a rebuke to many who had

not the courage to take the stand which he took. At first he was a member with others of the Whigs, but failing to see any relief coming from that source, he joined The Liberty Party. By this party he was made a candidate for the legislature. This brought him into more prominence, and the opposition to his convictions soon became opposition to himself. The bitter feeling even entered into the church of which he was a member, but in the midst of all opposition, he stood firmly and kindly. The time was not yet ripe for the breaking of old party ties, and he was defeated at the election. He afterwards became a member of the Republican Party, and through this party saw his desires for the slave fulfilled.

His efforts to help fugitive slaves to Canada would be an interesting chapter in his life, could we but know all that he did. Certainly he was a very active agent of the "underground railway," of that day. When the fugitive slave laws were passed, he was asked by a pro-slavery man if he would catch a runaway slave if ordered to do so. "Of course I would," and after the expression of surprise on the part of the pro-slavery man, he added, "but I would soon whisper in the slave's ear, that, if he would try he could easily break away from me."

It was one of the beautiful traits of his character from his boyhood up, that he always took the part of the weak and the oppressed.

His religious life and experience are interesting. He could not well help having a religious mind on account of the influence of his mother's life. He was early taught

in the word of God, and the doctrines of the Reformed church. On coming to Blairsville, he joined the Methodist Episcopal Church, toward which he had always leaned, and was made by the church a classleader. For a number of years he labored in this position, honestly and sincerely, it is true, but, as he afterwards confessed, having the "form" without the "power of godliness." Several things greatly annoyed him in his class-meetings. When members became happy, some of them would express their religious joy in harsh, unpleasant tones, while others would rejoice aloud. Both of these, he thought, were out of place in a solemn religious service, but his good sense prevented him from offending any by repressing these expressions of feeling. Finally, during a season of revival, he was convinced by the Holy Spirit that there was a power in religion which he had never experienced. So deeply was he convicted that he could not sleep. About three o'clock one morning, he rose from his bed, and started for the kitchen that he might pray alone. The prayer in his heart was, "Lord if there is power of which I know nothing, reveal it to me." The Lord answered his prayer, and as he was passing the dining room table, the power of God so fell upon him as to literally prostrate him. And ever after, his religion was one of "power." Consistent with his own experience, he always sought to lead men directly to God. The salvation of men was his chief concern. He was regular and punctual at all the church services, not even neglecting the Wednesday evening prayer meeting. He was a liberal and cheerful

giver to the church to every good cause. The worthy poor were never turned away empty. He stood at his post, as class-leader in the church, until death released him. He was always a great help in revival meetings, and was frequently called to assist in meetings in surrounding churches. It was while attending such a meeting at the Methodist Church at Homer, between Blairsville and Indiana, that he took the cold that resulted in his death. The theme of his talk that night was Naaman, the Leper, his favorite subject when addressing sinners. He dwelt on this because it so exactly described the humiliation of his own proud spirit, before he fully knew the *saving power* of God.

Death had no "terror" and no "sting" for him. About the middle of January, 1885, he showed signs of rapid failure. He lingered several weeks, until the 31st of the month, when he "crossed over," and was at rest. During his sickness, his mind was clear—in fact it was to the very end. He suffered intensely at the last, but his soul was exceedingly happy. He accepted all as from his Lord, and recognized in his sufferings his last earthly trial. When suffering most, he quoted the sentiment of that beautiful hymn:

"When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,

"My grace, all-sufficient, shall be thy supply,

"The flame shall not hurt thee; I only design

"Thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine,"

The "grace" was "all-sufficient," for in spite of the pain, his soul became exultingly happy, and he praised God with a loud voice. He exhorted all who visited him, and all his children to be faithful unto God till death.

An incident occurred a few days before his death, showing the loving Christian character of the man. An Irish woman (Catholic), to whom he had often given advice, and assisted her to invest her little earnings, as soon as she heard he was sick, called to see him. On entering the room next to his sick chamber, she was met by one of his sons, who said his father was too ill and could not be seen. She expressed great sorrow. On his return to his father's chamber, he asked who it was that wished to see him. His son replied, Aunt Kettee Burns. His father said at once, bring her in. After the usual greeting, she expressed great sympathy for him in his sufferings. He then repeated the beautiful hymn, "Jesus lover of my soul, &c." After leaving his room, she said, if there ever was a Christian, Mr. Graff was one.

He knew he was dying, but repeatedly quoted his favorite hymn: "By death I shall escape from death, and life-eternal gain."

His mind at the last was fixed upon the Master whom he had served so faithfully and lovingly, and his last words were, "Lord! Lord!"

The following poem was written by one who saw him die and heard his death-bed utterances. These utterances are indicated by quotation marks. The poem is entitled:

THE CROSSING.

By the brink of the mystic river,
Flowing noiselessly along,
As an eager pilgrim waited,
(For his feet had lingered long,)
To his listening ear was wafted,
A strain of the new, new song.

"Glory to Him that hath loved us!"
Blessing was borne on the strain,
Forgot were his hours of sorrow,
And the weary weight of pain,
For the Heavenly music thrilled him,
And his soul was glad again.

Did a ray of glory tremble
From the Father's throne above
On the joyful lips that murmured,
As he saw his fears removed?
"To think He should touch me, *even me*,
With the finger of His love."

Still silently flowed the river,
So darksome and deep and wide.
Vainly he looked for a crossing
Over the hurrying tide;
But his faith cried all victorious,
"And the waters He'll divide."

As he viewed with longing vision,
The loved on the other side,
Faint came the tremulous whisper,
"And the waters he'll divide."
Then his Lord came closer, closer,
And he leaned upon his guide.

Gently the waters divided,
For his Lord passed through before ;
And a hand unseen upheld him,
Till he gained the further shore.
Aye, the love that stooped to touch him,
Now enfolds him evermore.

The funeral services were held in the Methodist church, and, although the church is a large one, there were more people outside who could not get into the church, than there were inside. It seemed as though the entire neighborhood was present, there being many also from a distance. The services were in charge of Rev. J. W. Miles, with all the ministers of the town assisting. Addresses were made by Drs. Hill and Davis, of the Presbyterian church, who had both been his life-long friends. His grave was made by the side of his wife's grave in the Blairsville cemetery.

"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.
"Their trials are past, their work is done,
"And they are fully blest.
"They fought the fight, the victory won,
"And entered into rest."

The following is a list of the posterity of John and Lucy Graff.

The children of John Graff were :

- (1) SUSANNA, born June 25th, 1825 ; died July 10th, 1825.
- (2) HENRY, " Sept. 9th, 1826.
- (3) CAROLINE, " Dec. 10th, 1828 ; died May 16th, 1882.
- (4) ALEXANDER, born July 2d, 1831.
- (5) JACOB, born Sept. 23rd, 1834.
- (6) NICHOLAS, born Oct. 1836 ; died 1839.
- (7) PAUL, born July 4th, 1838.
- (8) JAMES, " Jan. 1841 ; died May 11th, 1860.
- (9) EDWARD, born Feb. 12th, 1843 ; died March 1845.
- (10) CHARLES H., born Feb. 6th, 1846.
- (11) MARY, born Jan. 10th, 1850 ; died March 16th, 1850.

MARRIAGES OF ABOVE AND CHILDREN.

No. 2.—HENRY married Margaret Wilkenson Oct. 30th, 1848.

GEORGE K., born Sept. 18th, 1849 ; died Oct. 10th, 1851.

LUCY L., born Apr. 15th, 1851.

MARY K., " Oct. 30th, 1852.

JOHN E., born June 16th, 1854 ; died May 6th, 1856.

CHARLES L., born Feb. 12th, 1856.

MARY L., " Oct. 2d, 1857.

JAMES G., born March 14th, 1860 :

CAROLINE A., born July 28th, 1863 ; died Nov. 14th, 1864.

SUMNER, born Sept. 6th, 1865.

GERTRUDE M. " Oct. 28th, 1869.

ALBERT P., born Oct. 28th, 1873 ; died Dec. 8th, 1873.

No. 3.—CAROLINE married Alexander Shields May 2d, 1850.

The former died May 16th, 1882, and the latter Jan, 1863.

Their children were :

LUCY S., born May 7th, 1852; died April 10th, 1887.

(1) Lucy married Alfred Porter Kirtland Oct. 7th, 1876, who was born May 24th, 1844. Children's births and names are :

RUTH C., born Jan. 20th, 1880.

JOHN SHIELDS, " " 3rd, 1880.

(2) JOHN G., born Jan. 10th, 1854.

John married Esther Kendall Oct. 9th, 1884, in Grand Rapids, Mich. Now living at Colorado Springs, Col. One child :

GEORGE KINDALL SHIELDS, born Jan. 27th, 1887.

(3) BELLA, born March 6th, 1855; died March 18th, 1862.

(4) MARY, " " 1st, 1857.

(5) ALEXANDER D., born Dec., 16th, 1858.

(6) CAROLINE, born April 21st, 1860.

Caroline married Sept. 24th, to Edwin R. Morse, born July 3rd, 1857. Children's names and births :

EDWIN A., born Sept. 30th, 1888.

LUCILE, " Dec. 3rd, 1889.

No. 4.—ALEXANDER GRAFF married Mary Wilkenson Feb. 27th, 1856. Their children were :

(1) JOHN A., born Jan. 27th, 1859.

(2) DENISON W., born Oct. 10th, 1859; died March 14th, 1861.

(3) EDGAR I., " Jan. 10th, 1862.

(4) HERBERT P. " Sept. 21st, 1864.

(5) LUELLA, " Dec. 29th, 1866.

- (6) ANNIE R., " April 1st, 1869.
- (7) JAMES F., " Sept. 23rd, 1871.
- (8) MARY W., " Jan. 24th, 1874.
- (9) ALFRED H., " March 21st, 1877.

No. 5.—JACOB GRAFF married Sallie I. R. Davis, Aug. 11th, 1864.
 Their children are :

- (1) ANNIE PARKHILL, born Feb. 14th, 1871; adopted.
- (2) WILLMA F., born Aug. 15th, 1874.

No. 7.—PAUL GRAFF married Elizabeth Mowry, Oct. 23rd, 1860.
 Their children were :

- (1) GEORGE R., born Oct. 2d, 1861.
- (2) FRANK M., " Dec. 1st, 1865.
- (3) ANNIE, " Dec. 7th, 1867; died Dec. 9th 1867.
- (4) WILBUR P., " Dec. 18th, 1868.
- (5) LAURA M., " July 7th, 1871.
- (6) WALTER R., " Sept., 18th, 1874.

No. 10.—CHARLES H. GRAFF married Maggie Laughry Sept. 15th, 1868. Their children were :

- (1) ALLISON, born Oct. 11th, 1869; died Aug. 12th, 1870.
- (2) ROBERT C., born Jan. 18th, 1871.
- (3) RAMOND, born March 30th, 1874.

OBITUARY AND OTHER NOTICES OF JOHN GRAFF FROM THE NEWSPAPER, "THE ENTERPRISE," BLAIRSVILLE, PA.

MR. JOHN GRAFF, SR., after an illness of several weeks, died at his home, in this place, on Saturday. Never since we have been in Blairsville has there been a death which caused such universal

regret among all classes. Mr. Graff having been engaged in active business here for nearly fifty years, had made the acquaintance of almost every person in this and Westmoreland counties. He was a truly Christian gentleman, and his many deeds of kindness had gained him the respect of every one who knew him. In business, politics, and in fact everything in which he engaged, he was strictly honorable. His opinions very often conflicted with those of his associates, and his place of business was the scene of many warm discussions. When any new questions came before the public, he would make a careful study of it before forming an opinion, and when his mind was made up on the side which he thought was right—and he was seldom in the wrong—he was not afraid to speak his convictions. He opposed slavery with his whole heart when few men had the courage to speak against it.

His funeral services were held in the M. E. church, on Monday afternoon. The large audience room was completely packed with people, and many went away unable even to find standing room. A special train brought a number of persons from Indiana. At 2 p. m. the corpse was carried into the church, followed by a large number of relatives. After the introductory exercises, Rev. Miles read the following brief sketch of Mr. Graff's life:

"John Graff, Sr., was born in Westmoreland Co., Pa., near Pleasant Unity, Aug. 3rd, 1800, and died at his home in Blairsville, Jan. 31st, 1885. His early educational advantages were limited, but were so diligently improved as to give to him a safe and broad foundation for intellectual pursuits. He was, throughout life, a careful student of men and literature. He was married in 1824, to Lucy S. Hacke. Mrs. Graff died in 1877, eight years ago. Of the eleven children that were born to them, five sons are living, and are well known in this community. He moved to Blairsville in 1837, and became one of the active business men of the place. He had formerly been a member of the German

Reformed Church. After his removal to Blairsville, he connected himself with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and continued a member the remainder of his life, with the exception of a few years that he was connected with the Wesleyan Methodist Church. He was honored by the church with many positions of trust, and proved himself an efficient officer. At the time of his death he was a class-leader. He had been reared under decidedly religious influences, and inherited from his parents a clear sense of justice and a strong love of human rights. Hence he was in the best and broadest sense, the friend of humanity; the law of kindness was in his tongue and in his heart. His absorbing theme and supreme delight was the salvation of men. He was in advance of his day on all questions of moral reform, and having the courage of his convictions, he stood in the forefront of the battle for God and humanity. In his death, his family, this church, the entire community, have sustained a great loss; but he has realized the blessedness and victory of one of his familiar quotations:

‘By death I shall escape from death,
And life eternal gain.’ ”

Rev. Geo. Hill, D. D., of the Presbyterian church, and Rev. Jas. Davis, both warm friends of the deceased, made brief but touching addresses in evidence of his true Christian character. Rev. Miles then recounted some of the scenes of his last illness, showing that as the end drew near, Mr. Graff had no fears for the future. Another useful life is ended, and although it is hard for friends to part with him, they have the consolation of knowing that he has gone to a world where trouble never comes. His life had been spent in the service of his Master, and he has been taken to his reward. During his illness he talked of the goodness of God, and at times, in spite of his intense suffering, he would become extremely happy. His last words were, “Lord Lord!”

OBITUARY NOTICES FROM OTHER PAPERS.

HON. JOHN GRAFF, of Blairsville, after a brief illness, died at his residence in this town, on Saturday last, Jan. 31st. He was born in Westmoreland Co., near Pleasant Unity, Aug. 3rd, 1800. He was married in 1824, to Miss Lucy Hacke, who bore him eleven children, five of whom survive, to wit: Henry, Alexander, Paul, Jacob and Charles.

At an early day he located in Blairsville, and after the opening of the Pennsylvania Canal, erected a warehouse on the bank of the river, and through that house passed nearly all the produce of the county. In that connection he had business relations with a great many persons, and his acquaintanceship extended to the northern limits of our county. He was highly esteemed by all, as an honest, upright man, and he had the most implicit confidence of all who dealt with him. His early education was not great, yet he acquired an extensive knowledge of men and measures. He was a strong advocate of equal rights, and an active anti-slavery man, and on more than one occasion assisted the closely pursued slave to escape to a land of freedom. He was a man of strong religious proclivities, and his whole life was an exemplification of the beauties of Christianity. He was, in the broadest sense, a friend of humanity, and never turned an unwilling ear to the cry of distress, from whatever quarter it came. In his business relations with his fellow-men he was correct, and his word was as good as his bond. In the financial affairs of his church, he was always a liberal and cheerful giver, and out of his abundance, he made many hearts glad by his private charities. In stature and appearance he was a noble looking man, and bore the impress upon his face of the kindness and nobility which permeated his whole character and life. The funeral services took place in the M. E. Church, on Monday afternoon last, and were attended by almost the entire populace of this place, many being

unable to gain admission. The services were conducted by the ministers of the town, Dr. Hill, of the Presbyterian Church, delivering the sermon. The services were very impressive and the strict attention and many tearful eyes in the audience gave strong evidence of the esteem in which he was held by his fellow-citizens who turned out in such large numbers to pay a last sad tribute to one they had learned to love, and to whom so many of them had looked up to for advice in spiritual matters. His death was cheerful and his last words gave evidence that he knew that a crown of glory awaited him in the mansions of the Master he had so faithfully served. His last days were made pleasant by the faithful and untiring efforts of his children to care for his every want and comfort. In the death of John Graff the people of Blairsville have lost one of their best citizens, and the church a faithful worker. But his example will live long after his remains shall have returned to the dust from which they came; and his noble life will be a hand-board to those who desire to honorably and acceptably serve the Master. A special train left this place at 1 P. M., bearing quite a number of our people who desired to be present at the funeral obsequies.

DEATH has again been among us, and claimed as its victim a father in Israel. Mr. John Graff, Sr., died at his residence on Liberty street, on last Saturday morning, in the 85th year of his age. His funeral services were held at the M. E. Church on Monday afternoon, and was largely attended. In the immense crowd which assembled to pay the last tribute of respect to the departed, all denominational distinctions were forgotten in the great sorrow that had fallen upon the community in the loss of one of its oldest and most respected citizens. Catholics and Protestants of all denominations alike paid their tribute to the honored dead, and mourned the loss they sustained in the death of this

venerable citizen. Rev. George Hill, Rev. James Davis, and the pastor, J. M. Miles, spoke in the highest terms of the Christian character of the deceased, and of his many noble and generous qualities which were characteristic of him throughout his entire life. Mr. Graff was born in August, 1800, in Westmoreland county, near Unity. In 1837 he removed to this place and engaged in business. Since that time to the time of his death he has been a resident of this place, and has been eminently successful in his business. In the death of Mr. Graff the community sustains a severe loss, while the church is bereft of one of its most useful and earnest members. The friends of the deceased have the sympathy of the entire community in their sad bereavement.

DEATH OF MR. JOHN GRAFF, SR.

SATURDAY last, the 31st ult., saw the close of a life of usefulness and activity when the venerable John Graff, Sr., of Blairsville, passed beyond the realms of time to eternity, with a full consciousness and hope of a blessed immortality. He was born August 3, 1800, near Pleasant Unity, Westmoreland Co., was married to Miss Lucy S. Hacke in 1824, and removed to Blairsville in 1837, where he has been since largely engaged in business.

He was a man of splendid physique, standing over six feet in height, and in his prime was a powerful man. Not only a powerful man physically, but a man of strong mind and firm convictions, as all who were acquainted with him well know.

The funeral services took place on Monday afternoon, the remains being removed to the audience hall of the M. E. Church, which was filled to its utmost capacity. The services were opened by a voluntary by the choir, after which a lesson from the Scriptures was read by Rev. J. A. —ter, and the beautiful hymn "Jesus Lover of my Soul," given out by Rev. Stevens, and

sung. Rev. Miles, the pastor of the church, then read a brief memorial of the life of the deceased, and then introduced Dr. Hill, of the Presbyterian Church, as the first speaker. Dr. Hill delivered a beautiful and eloquent tribute to his old friend, whom he had known for over forty-three years, and was followed by Rev. Davis and Rev. J. W. Miles, the pastor of the church. The services were closed by prayer by Rev. Thomas, of the U. P. Church, after which the immense audience passed around the bier of their old friend and neighbor to take a last look at the remains of one, who although silent in death, had been in life a power, and who left a bright example to his family and friends and the entire community. His remains were then interred in the Blairsville cemetery, followed by a large concourse of people.

The business houses and railroad shops were closed and business suspended, and the general regret of all the citizens but feebly expressed the grief and sorrow of the community at the loss of one of their first citizens.

The deceased has five sons living—Henry, Alexander, Paul, Jacob and Charles—all active and energetic business men, and if we are correctly informed, three of his brothers, younger in years, are still living—the family connections being one of the largest in this county.

JOHN GRAFF'S DEATH.—GREENSBURG PAPER.

FEW men in Western Pennsylvania were better known among business men than John Graff, of Blairsville. On last Saturday, January 31st, this man closed his earthly career in the full assurance of faith. He was recognized by the entire community as a godly man who was ready, at all times, to give a reason for the hope that was in him. He was, as a matter of course, from what has been already said, an honest man in his business. He was a man of far more than ordinary intelligence, and could ex-



press his views with great clearness and calmness, and could support his opinions by reason and logic which were almost irresistible. He never held any half formed opinions on any subject, and in short he was an extraordinary man physically, intellectually and morally, such as few communities can produce. He, at one time in his youth, before the temperance question was agitated or understood, carried on a distillery near Pleasant Unity in this county. But as soon as he began to examine into and think over the effects of the business upon the community, he abandoned it at once and forever, and for near fifty years he was a most determined foe to the whiskey traffic in all its forms, and an uncompromising and zealous friend of temperance. At the same time, he, for about the same period, was an abolitionist—the given friend of the down-trodden and oppressed colored race. He was none of your modern abolitionists, but one of the original brand, who was not afraid to espouse the cause of the oppressed when such espousal was very unpopular. He never was an expediency man, but when satisfied that the thing was *right* he sustained it, and when satisfied it was *wrong* he condemned and opposed it.

He was a firm, zealous and consistent member of the M. E. Church from his youth to the day of his death. Not many weeks since he paid a visit to our town and, as if he had a presentiment that it would be his last visit to Greensburg, although he said nothing about it, he went from house to house and made a personal visit to those with whom he had long been acquainted. He was not afraid to die, but expressed his readiness to depart and be with Christ, which was far better than remaining in this world. He was physically a powerful man, being six feet three or four inches in height, and well proportioned, and remained as erect and straight as a statue. For fifty years or more he was the leading business man in Blairsville. During the time when



the old Pennsylvania Canal was in operation, he was largely engaged in the commission and forwarding business. His death will create a vacuum in the church, in the State and in the community which will not soon be filled by one of like character.

OBITUARY.

LUCY GRAFF, wife of John Graff of Blairsville, Pa, died March 4, 1877, aged 71 years. She was born in Baltimore, Md., October 19, 1805. She was a member of the German Reformed Church for a number of years. She joined the M. E. Church in 1838, of which she continued a consistent member, until death. She died in the triumph of a "living faith," and "her children rise up and call her blessed." She was a woman of decidedly domestic habits, a meek and quiet spirit delighting in the prosperity of her neighbors and annoying none. Herself surrounded by the comforts of a sumptuous home, she labored to make her abundance a blessing to all whose misfortunes brought them under her notice; and many were the blessings invoked upon her by those whose necessity she relieved. Her religion made her life a constant sunshine. She was a model mother, and the "idol" of her children. Never was a family more devoted and assiduous in their attentions than were they, during her illness. Her sufferings were severe and protracted, and yet she never murmured nor complained. She was not only uncomplaining, but even cheerful, during almost her entire sickness. She was greatly interested in the salvation of her children and grandchildren, and it was one of her last acts to impress them with the necessity of preparation for heaven.

No one has passed from this community for years, who was more universally respected than sister Graff. Full of years and good works her life was like a rose, fragrant and beautiful while

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here; and now, that she is dead and gone, her acts remain as a testimony in this community to the power of the faith which she professed.

OBITUARY OF JAMES G. GRAFF.

JAMES G., son of JOHN and LUCY GRAFF, was born January —, 1841, and fell asleep in Jesus on Friday morning, the 11th of May, 1860, at half-past seven o'clock.

James was converted at a protracted meeting in Blairsville in the Winter of 1857, but did not hold fast his profession. He remained in a backslidden state until the night of the 23rd of March last, when, becoming greatly concerned about his soul, he called his father to his bedside and requested him to pray. The father, with true parental feeling and solicitude, exhorted the son to unite with him in prayer, which he did in a very earnest and emphatic manner. This exercise was not continued long until he embraced Christ by faith, and was led into the liberty of the Gospel. This happy transition from darkness into the marvelous light of reconciling love was hailed with rejoicing and triumph by himself and parents, whom he tenderly embraced, exclaiming: "Now I can die!" From that time until his death he had great peace of mind, and spoke of dying with as much calmness as if he were preparing for only a short journey and temporary absence from home.

A few days before his death, although encouraged by his physician, he began to make distribution of his effects, charging his mother what to do with them. He continued to rise at about five in the morning, and attend to many little things about the house, and to ride out a few miles in the afternoons when the weather was favorable, up to the day next preceding his death, and was only then prevented by the wetness of the day.

The evening before he left us, he said he felt that he could not live but a few days, and desired to have the family all together that he might talk to them before his strength should be too much wasted. He expressed a strong desire to see his three brothers converted; and the last efforts of his waning life were put forth for the accomplishment of his laudable wish. As the brothers were kneeling before him, earnestly engaged in prayer, James commanded silence, and in a full and animated voice instructed and encouraged them, and spoke of the necessity of the full surrender of their hearts to God. The scene was truly interesting and affecting. There were the assembled family, the kneeling young men overwhelmed with weeping, and the disease-wasted brother, hovering over the border of the spirit world, exhorting them to lay hold, by faith, of the atoning sacrifice of Christ. He was soon after consecrated to God by holy baptism, and retired, but rested poorly. At about one in the morning he said to his father: "I think I shall not live more than a few days, but I feel much better; tell mother to take some rest—she is wearing herself out." As he wiped the cold, clammy sweat from his child's brow, the sorrowing father perceived that his end was fast approaching, and told him he could live only a few hours, and asked him how he felt in view of meeting death so soon. An unearthly smile played over his worn countenance, and he said: "I am happy, happy, happy! I feel that I have not served the Lord long enough, but I am happy." As the family approached the bedside, at the sound of every footstep he would turn his head to see who was coming, and pressing their hands and kissing them, he exhorted them all to meet him in heaven, and after receiving their promise, said: "All is well." Observing his mother's grief, he said with tenderness: "Mother, do not mourn for me; I am only going a little before you, and then it will not be long till we shall strike glad hands in heaven."



His vital energies now began rapidly to give way; his vocal powers failed entirely, and it became painfully evident that his hearing was growing dull; but his calm, deep, spiritual eyes, slightly elevated and fixed in steady gaze, as if peering through the gathering shades, and resting with delight upon the bright scenes beyond, gave indubitable evidence that consciousness and reason were unimpaired. As the receding billow was slowly bearing him away from the shore of time, the question was propounded, "Do you now feel the presence and sustaining grace of the Saviour?" And though the tongue had lost the power of articulation, the wasted hand was raised, according to request, in token of assent. He gave no signs of suffering, and so gradual and gentle was his departure that the precise moment of the spirit's exit was scarcely discernible.

On Saturday afternoon, notwithstanding the surcharged clouds were pouring the teeming rain upon the earth, a large concourse of people assembled to pay the last tribute of respect to one they loved, and proceeded in solemn procession to the Village Cemetery, whence, after the precious remains had been committed to the grave in sure and certain hope of a part in the first resurrection, forming in procession, they escorted the bereaved relatives back to the family residence.

Thus died one who loved and was kind to every one, and whom everybody loved and respected in return.

"He being dead yet speaketh."

J. W. S.

VI.—MARGARET GRAFF.

MARGARET GRAFF, the third daughter of John and Barbara Graff, was born May 3d, 1802, died March 24th, 1885. She was married to John Colleasure, born 1800; died Dec. 25th, 1875. They are both buried at Dodds-ville, Illinois. Children :

No. 1.—LUCETTA HAYMAKER, born Oct. 10th, 1826, died Aug. 22d, 1876. She was married to Irwin Rutledge (who was born Feb. 24th, 1826) Oct. 23d, 1851. Eight children :

- (1) LUCY GRAFF, born Nov. 10th, 1852; died Sep. 30th, 1853.
- (2) MARGARET JANE, " April 5th, 1854; " Feb. 15th, 1855.
- (3) AUGUSTA EDSON, " Jan. 13th, 1856; "
- (4) LIZZA ROBERTS, " Apr. 23rd, 1858; " Aug. 24th, 1874.
- (5) WILLIAM GRAFF, " Mar. 30th, 1860; " " 1st, 1876.
- (6) FRANK AGNEW, " " 5th, 1862; " 1867.
- (7) IRWIN, JR., " Dec. 9th, 1863.
- (8) JOHN COLLEASURE, born April 12th, 1865.

No. 2.—ELIZABETH, born June 1828, married Nov. 18th, 1852, to Alexander Y. Barkley. Ten children :

(1) LUCETTA P., born married I. C. Tomb, June 28th, 1883. Their child Howard was born Sept. 26th, 1884.

(2) ANNA M., born Jan. 1856, married George W. Rutledge, Dec. 21st, 1882.

(3) BABY, born March 1858; died Aug. 1858.

(4) LIRRIE, " Aug. 1860; died 1865.

(5) MAGGIE, " " "

LOUISA C., born July 1862.

ELLA C., " " 1864.

WM. FRANK, " Aug. 1866.

July 1
Margaret Colleasure, Born 1835. *f*

May 5 Married Mr. Christy in 1866. *July 21 '61* *Dec. 1, Dec. 9, 1885*

May 21
4 William Colleasure, Born 1840. enlisted in. co. c. 1
Oct 27 { 119, 222. Aug 9, 1862. dis

Married in 1877. { June 29th 1865

21 children. C. W. born Sept 3
To P. C. Hamelton Dec. 31st 1876 - *March 2nd 1877* *2 boys b. May 21/83 & 1 girl b. May 21/83*

1835 Caroline Colleasure, Born 1842.

Wm
Married Mr. Black. Oct 2nd 1879.

children. Margaret G. born Aug. 1860. Mr. Plummer born Sept 20. 1868

Three died in Infancy,

Making nine children of

John and Margaret Colleasure.

The above was overlooked.

n duty. He was a young man given to prayer, a regular t upon the means of grace, but seldom absent from the meeting, always in the Sabbath School, unless providentially hindered, supporting the cause of Christ both by his influence and money. He engaged in every good word and work, and on his dying bed, that Saviour whom he had religion that he professed did not forsake him.

He had a strong desire to live, as would be very natural for a son of his age, yet as he drew nearer his end, his faith



- (6) LOUISA C., born July 1862.
- (7) ELLA C., " " 1864.
- (8) WM. FRANK, " Aug. 1866.
- (9) JENNIE A., " Dec. 1869.
- (10) EDWARD GRAFF, born Sept. 1872.

No. 6.—JAMES, no date of birth given, died Feb. 25th, 1876, aged 28 years 9 months and 17 days.

OBITUARY OF JAMES COLLEASURE.

DIED at his residence near Doddsville, the 25th of February, at 2.40 P. M., of typhoid fever, JAMES COLLEASURE, aged 28 years, 9 months and 17 days.

He was the youngest son of Elder John Colleasure (who was himself suddenly called to his rest on Christmas morning, just two months before), and was a young man of most excellent Christian character. He made a profession of his faith in Christ in the Presbyterian Church of Doddsville, January 26, 1867, under the ministry of Rev. James T. Bliss, and was admitted to membership in that church. His was no empty profession; no sooner was he received into the church than he entered upon active Christian duty. He was a young man given to prayer, a regular attendant upon the means of grace, but seldom absent from the prayer-meeting, always in the Sabbath School, unless providentially hindered, supporting the cause of Christ both by his influence and means. He engaged in every good word and work, and when brought to lie upon his dying bed, that Saviour whom he loved and religion that he professed did not forsake him.

While he had a strong desire to live, as would be very natural for a person of his age, yet as he drew nearer his end, his faith

appeared to grow brighter and stronger. When told on the morning before he died, by a member of the church, that he could not live, it produced no excitement. He calmly said that he was prepared to go, if it was the Lord's will, and asked that his Sabbath School class might be sent for. They came around his bedside at 1 o'clock ; at that time he was not able to talk to them, but recognizing them he took them severally by the hand, when Mr. Pollock, feeling what their teacher wanted to say to them, told them to be good boys, love their Saviour and prepare to meet their teacher in heaven.

While he was at home in all religious services the Sabbath School was his great delight. For thirteen months before his death, and how much longer the writer does not know, he was not absent one day from his class. And while we sorrow that we shall see him no more on earth, and that he cannot come to us, we rejoice that if we are faithful we shall see him in that better world where sickness and death are not known, and where Jesus walks in the midst of his people.

His funeral was the largest ever held in the neighborhood, and had a stranger been present he would have said, from the concourse of people come together, surely a good man has fallen. The old church was full to overflowing. The funeral discourse was preached by Rev. H. C. Mullen, from 2 Timothy, i: 10, last clause, after which the remains were deposited in the cemetery north of the village, beside his father, there to await the resurrection morning when he shall come forth and be numbered with those of the first resurrection, and so be forever with the Lord.

At a congregational meeting the day after he was taken sick, he was elected to take his father's place in the Eldership by an almost unanimous vote, but did not live to be installed.

Let his young associates follow him as he followed Christ, so it may be also well with you when you come to die. H. B.

OBITUARY OF MR. JOHN COLLEASURE.

DIED at Doddsville, December 25, 1875, Mr. JOHN COLLEASURE, in the 76th year of his age.

Mr. Colleasure was born in Kentucky, and at a very early age made his home in Westmoreland County, Pa. Here the greater part of his life was spent. In 1824 he was married to Miss Margaret Graff, and together they traveled the journey of life down to the time of his death. He united with the Presbyterian Church at Mt. Pleasant in 1829, then under the pastoral care of Rev. Patterson. He was elected to the office of ruling elder in 1838, in which he has served the church ever since. He moved to Illinois in 1857, where he immediately found work to do for the Master in the churches of New Providence and Doddsville, where his efficiency as an elder and his piety as a Christian will not soon be forgotten. Elder Colleasure, as a Christian, was a living epistle, read and known of all men, and his humble, meek and blameless life was mighty in building up the cause of religion, for the world saw in him a living testimony for Jesus. Therefore the church and community feel that in his removal they have sustained a great loss. Elder Colleasure loved the Sabbath School, and it was his heart's delight to labor in it. He was a most faithful teacher of a Bible class, for many years, till a few months before his death, when, on account of his failing strength, he gave it into other hands; yet he seldom failed to meet with them. The last year of his life he was absent but *one* Sabbath.

The end of his earthly life was evidently that of one who felt that he was nearing home. He spent much of his time in memorizing the Scriptures and the singing of favorite hymns, such as, "On Jordan's stormy banks I stand," and "Come, we that love the Lord." He loved the Lord, and the Lord showed His love to him by taking him to Himself without lingering pain

and suffering. One of the most prominent traits in his Christian character was his unshaken confidence in God. He never gave way to gloom or despondency. When adversity came he never seemed to be cast down or troubled, but confidently trusted that the Lord would do all things well, and with child-like faith he clung closer to God. Like Moses he finished his work faithfully, and the Lord took him gently to Himself.

On Christmas eve he attended an entertainment in the church for the benefit of the Sabbath School, made an earnest and solemn prayer at its opening, and took a lively interest in the proceedings of the evening. Alas! how little we thought that it would be his last prayer.

He went home, and after a secret prayer, at his bedside, of more than ordinary length, he retired in his usual health.

He slept soundly till five o'clock in the morning, when the Master called. He rose up in the bed, spoke of a strange feeling in his breast, but immediately lay down, and before the members of his family could be summoned to his bedside, his spirit had gone from its house of clay to be forever with the Lord, whom so ardently he had loved and so faithfully had followed.

He was the father of nine children; three died in infancy. The remaining six he lived to see members of the Presbyterian Church, who, with his aged companion, still live to mourn the loss of a kind husband and an affectionate father, whose godly example they will ever remember till they shall meet him, with songs of joy, in the Father's house above; and the church at Dodds-ville will long remember him as a faithful and earnest leader, whose Christian life is worthy of imitation. H. C. MULLAN.

OBITUARY OF MRS. JOHN COLLEASURE.

MRS. MARGARET COLLEASURE was born May 6, 1802, and died at the home of her daughter near Dodds-ville, Illinois, March 24,

1885. She was the sister of Jacob Graff and Mrs. Elizabeth Armstrong, who are generally known. In 1824 she was married to John Colleasure, in Pennsylvania, and in 1857 they removed to Illinois and settled in Schuyler county. Theirs was a happy life. Nine children were born to them of whom some are yet living. On Christmas morn, 1875, the husband and father passed to his reward. Early in life her mind was turned to sacred things by a prayer-book presented to her by a minister of the Gospel. She united with the Presbyterian Church of Pleasant Unity in 1829. Though several years elapsed between the time of her conversion and her union with the church, yet they were not misspent. Unassuming, almost to a fault, she manifested in her daily life the religion she professed. She lived not for herself but for her friends and family. For several years she had been a sufferer from asthma. This seemed to have developed into congestion of the lungs a few weeks preceding her death. Her nights were spent in intense suffering, but with coming of day, her suffering would diminish. She seemed to feel that her end was near. Her faith would reach up beyond things earthly and give her glimpses of the celestial city. Her death was peaceful and painless. "See! see!" she whispered to her children and friends as they gathered around her bedside. They were angels who had come to carry her home. She gently closed her eyes and fell asleep in Jesus.

The funeral services were held in the Presbyterian Church at Doddsville. A large number of friends and neighbors assembled to pay their last tribute of love and esteem. After a very appropriate sermon her remains were laid to rest by the side of those of her husband in the Doddsville Cemetery. Well can we say, "O death, where is thy sting; O grave, where is thy victory?"



ELIZABETH GRAFF.

VII.—JOSEPH GRAFF.

JOSEPH GRAFF, the fifth son of John and Barbara Graff, was born Oct. 13, 1804, and died in 1806. He was buried on the Bash farm, near Pleasant Unity, where his father and mother were afterwards buried.

VIII.—ELIZABETH GRAFF.

ELIZABETH, the fourth daughter of John and Barbara Graff, was born Jan. 7, 1806; died May 19, 1888, in Doddsville, Ill., and was buried at Rushville. On Feb. 10, 1831, she was married to John Armstrong, who was born Jan. 4, 1808, and died Dec. 29, 1882. He also was buried at Rushville. Mrs. Armstrong was a member of the M. E. Church for 46 years. She was a devoted Christian and much given to prayer. On her deathbed she prayed for her departure that she might be with Christ and also for the dear ones left behind. Her husband, John Armstrong, was a very industrious man. He had no educational advantages in early life. He was a strong advocate of temperance and was one of the first men in Westmoreland County to join the temperance society. This was in 1829. He was also very benevolent and never turned the needy away.

CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN.

No. 1.—CAROLINE, born Sept. 10, 1832, married to Edgar A. Burnham, May 4, 1858. Children:

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| (1) JOHN A., | born Feb. 4, 1859. |
| (2) FRANK P. | " April 17, 1860. |
| (3) ELIZABETH | " March 17, 1863, married Wm. [R. Clugston, Feb. 13, 1889. |
| (4) EDGAR, | " Oct. 3, 1864. |
| (5) A. I., | " Jan. 12, 1866; died Sep. 5, 1867 |
| (6) MINNIE, | " Jan. 16, 1868. |
| (7) PAUL GRAFF, | " Jan. 18, 1869. |
| (8) HANNAH, | " April 10, 1870. |
| (9) KATE, | " Nov. 19, 1871. |
| (10) ANNIE, | " March 23, 1873. |
| (11) ALBERT CARPENTER, | " April 3, 1874. |
| (12) FRED. WILLIAM, | " Oct. 8, 1875. |

No. 2.—PRISCILLA, the second daughter of John and Elizabeth Armstrong was born Oct. 14, 1838; is unmarried and living at Doddsville, Illinois.



Peter Grafty

IX.—PETER GRAFF.

PETER GRAFF, the fifth son of John and Barbara Graff, was born on the farm in Westmoreland county, Pa., May 27, 1808, and died, April 9, 1890.

His early childhood was spent amid the stirring scenes of the War of 1812. He distinctly remembered the gathering of the soldiers in his neighborhood, as they were starting for the scene of war. He was too young at the time to fully realize what it meant; and when he saw the weeping and lamentation at the parting of those brave men from their friends, he could not understand it. As the war progressed, its horrors made a lasting impression on his memory.

His early education was limited, as country schools, in those days, were few and only opened in the winter months, while pupils had often long distances to go. He mentions one of his teachers as being the father of Gov. Geary. He was full of energy, and this showed itself early in life. At about sixteen years of age, his brother, Henry, gave him a situation in his store at Pleasant Unity, Westmoreland County, Pa., where he remained about two years. Then his brother gave him for several years charge of a branch store in New Derry. This was afterwards sold. He was married to Susanna Lobengier, in Westmoreland County, January 25, 1830. His business qualifications developed so strongly, that he

and his brother Henry commenced business in Blairsville, for the sale of general merchandise. The style of the firm was H. and P. Graff.

During the five or six years that he remained in Blairsville, Indiana County, Pa., he became a very popular merchant. His business increased so rapidly that he was compelled to employ five or six clerks to do it. Many customers bringing produce over thirty miles to exchange for merchandise. He was a thoughtful and clear-headed young man, being only about twenty five or six years old at this time. They formed a partnership with Messrs. E. G. Dutilh & Co., commission merchants of Philadelphia, to transport merchandise from Philadelphia and Baltimore to Pittsburgh and further West. The name of the Company was called the Union Transportation Line. Before his departure, in 1836, to Pittsburgh, many friends gathered around him to say good by and also to congratulate him on the successful and responsible position he was about to take charge of, the agent for the Union Transportation Line, of which he was a large shareholder, to receive and forward merchandise and produce east and west.

During his residence in Pittsburgh, he became a partner in the firm of J. Painter & Co., wholesale grocers. His business interests so increased in the manufacturing of iron, in Armstrong, Venango and Clarion Counties, that he was obliged, in 1844, to move his residence to Buffalo Mills, Armstrong County, Pa., where he resided until his death.

In 1840, he became a Christian, and connected himself with the Lutheran Church. This was a joyful event to his dear old mother, who had prayed so many years for his conversion; and she wrote him a very beautiful letter, which is copied in the short history of her life. With his profession of Christianity, a new life sprang up; new aims grew and developed for Christ! As in business, he was infused with the same spirit of energy in his Christian life. *Fifty years* he was Superintendant of the Sabbath School; fifty years one of the principal men of the church; fifty years working, instructing, giving, and walking with God, until his death! What an epitaph to leave for his children and his friends! And in memory of this noble life—now in God's hands—my prayer is, that it may be the means of leading many souls to seek an interest in Christ, and to follow in the footsteps of this faithful servant of the Lord!

THE CHILDREN OF PETER AND SUSANNA GRAFF:

No. 1.—JOSEPH, born July 17th, 1831. He married Miss Jane Reynolds in Kittanning, Pa. They had five children, Alexander, Ross Reynolds, Edmund, Susie Lobingier, and Jane Reynolds.

(1) ALEXANDER married Mary L. Truby, June 5, 1884. Children:

ANDREW DULL, born April 23rd, 1885.

ANNA MUSGRAVE, " Dec. 24th, 1886.

CHARLES HENRY, " Jan. 23rd, 1890.

(2) SUSAN L., married Andrew C. Bailey, March 18th, 1886. Children:

ROSS REYNOLDS, born Mar. 4th, 1887.

JEAN MOSS ROSS, " June 4th, 1888.

JUDETH DULL, " Nov. 9th, 1889.

Cyrus E. Linton, who married Sarah Jane,

Died April 21st., 1891.

No. 2.—MARY LOBINGIER, born, Feb. 17th, 1834; died Mar. 4th, 1842, aged 8 years.

No. 3.—ANNA BARBARA, born Aug. 31st, 1836. *Died April 21st 1891*

She was married to Wm. H. Kirkpatrick Nov. 25th, 1859, at Buffalo Mills, Armstrong Co., Pa. No children. Now living in Allegheny City, Pa.

No. 4.—ELIZABETH, born Jan. 25th, 1840; died Mar. 24th, 1842.

No. 5.—CHAS. HUMPHRIES, born May 4, 1842; died Sep. 2, 1842.

No. 6.—SARAH JANE, born Aug 3d, 1843.

Married to Cyrus B. Linton, Buffalo Mills, Pa., Oct. 31st, 1878. They have one child, Edmund Graff, born Sept. 2nd, 1879. The family live at Clifton Springs, N. Y., where Mr. Linton is business manager of the Sanatorium.

No. 7.—EDMUND DUTILLE, born Aug. 14th, 1846.

Unmarried, makes his home with his parents at Buffalo Mills, Pa.

No. 8.—PHILIP MELANCHTHON, born Aug. 15th, 1848.

Married Sarah Agnes Earhart Oct. 15th, 1872, at Worthington, Armstrong Co., Pa. They have five children: Anna Barbara, Margaret Gertrude, Carroll Friedt, Agnes Virginia and Herbert Hovey, and now reside in Duluth, Minn.

No. 9.—PETER, born June 24th, 1851.

Married Hattie O'Brien Oct. 12th, 1880, in Brooklyn, N. Y. No children. Reside at Utica, New York.

No. 10.—CHARLES HENRY, born Nov. 10, 1854; died Sep. 29, 1889.

Unmarried and practiced medicine in Duluth, Minn. He was thoroughly educated, and took a high rank in his profession; also was highly esteemed, as the following tributes show:

GONE TO HIS REST.

Chas. H. Graff was born and brought up at Kitanning, Pa., and would have been 35 years old had he lived until November. He graduated from Gettysburg college in 1876, and from the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania in 1879. The following two years he spent in the hospitals of Vienna and the University of Gottingen, coming to Duluth in 1881. Some time afterward he went to Sweden and studied the Swedish language and attended lectures in the city of Stockholm. In 1887-8 he spent a year in foreign travel, passing the winter in Egypt and the Holy Land. If one word had to be chosen to characterize Dr. Graff, that word would be "student." He was an omnivorous reader, and his studies were by no means confined to subjects related to his profession, but ran out along many lines of science, literature and art. It might almost be said that he sacrificed his life to his insatiable thirst for knowledge, for many a time after a day spent in the arduous duties of his profession, he has spent the entire night in reading and study, depriving himself of needed rest and using up the strength which might have brought him out a conqueror in the struggle with disease.

His father and mother are still living at Kitanning, but unable by reason of their more than 80 years to come and follow their son to the grave. Two brothers, Peter, of Utica, N. Y., and Edmund D., of Kitanning, are now here, besides Phillip Melanchthon, who resides in Duluth, a younger brother, Frank, from Kitanning, and his sister, Mrs. Wm. Kirkpatrick, of Pittsburg, are now on the way and expected on Tuesday. It has been decided that the burial will be in Duluth, but the time of the funeral will be announced hereafter.

He occupied a place in the front ranks of his profession; his great skill, both as a physician and surgeon, made his services

in constant demand. The income from his practice, supplemented by wise investments, had gained for him a competence. Learned in his profession, cultured in mind, genial in nature, and generous in heart, Dr. Graff will be sadly missed and deeply mourned not only by those who are connected with him by ties of blood, but by friends, many and warm. Eulogies will be spoken, and a monument reared over his last resting-place, but the truest, grandest tribute which will be paid to the worth of Dr. Graff, will be the tears and blessings of the hundreds of poor, to whom, in sickness or accident, he not only gave freely of his time and skill, but of his means as well, providing for those who were unable to procure them for themselves, the medicines and dainty food that brought them back to health.

OBITUARY.

DR. C. H. GRAFF, A PENNSYLVANIAN, WHO WON DISTINCTION AND WEALTH IN DULUTH.

ST. PAUL, Minn., Sept. 29, [SPECIAL].—Dr. C. H. Graff, one of the many Pennsylvanians for whose adoption of Minnesota as their home this State has reason to be gratified, died at Duluth this morning at the age of 34 years. He was taken sick a month ago with typhoid fever.

Dr. Graff had been a resident of Duluth for about nine years, and stood at the very head of the medical fraternity, having a very large practice. He graduated in the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania in 1879, and afterwards went to Heidelberg, where he also graduated. Twice since he located in Duluth he has been in Europe, studying at both Vienna and Stockholm. On one of these visits he made a trip through Italy, Turkey, Egypt and Asia Minor.

He was elected coroner of St. Louis County, in which Duluth is located, in 1884, by nearly 2,000 majority, running on the Democratic ticket. He was always a hard student, reading until 2 or 3 o'clock in the morning after a hard day's work. This overwork caused such a weakening of his vital forces that he could not resist the attack of the disease. His brother, Phillip Melancthon Graff, is a resident of Duluth, and his brothers, Ed. D. Graff, of Pennsylvania, and Peter Graff, of Utica, N. Y., are now in Duluth, while another brother and a sister are on the way. Dr. Graff was never married. He leaves a large amount of property, mostly in real estate and other investments, in Duluth and the vicinity.

A PROFESSORSHIP ENDOWED.

Special Telegram to the *Times*.

GETTYSBURG, Oct. 31.—Peter Graff, of Worthington, has announced the gift of \$25,000 out of the estate of his son, Charles H. Graff, M. D., who died recently in Duluth, Minn., to endow a professorship in Pennsylvania College at Gettysburg, to be known as "The Dr. Charles H. Graff Professorship of Hygiene and Physical Culture." Dr. George D. Staley, of Lebanon, formerly of Harrisburg, has been chosen to fill the chair.

No. 11.—JOHN FRANCIS, born Aug. 12th, 1857.

Married Carrie Louise Brown, Dec. 27th, 1881, in Lancaster, Pa. They live at Buffalo Mills, Pa. Children:

- (1) JAMES BROWN, born Dec. 21st, 1882.
- (2) PETER, " Sept. 15th, 1886.
- (3) JOHN FRANCIS, " Dec. 28th, 1888.
- (4) MARY HAY GRAFF, born Sept. 25th, 1890.

A BRIEF SKETCH OF THE LIFE AND WORK OF PETER GRAFF.

From the *Kittanning Globe*.

The news of the death of the venerable citizen whose name precedes this mention is already probably well known throughout the country. He was a conspicuous figure among the generation of men now rapidly passing away, and in the course of more than half a century of active business life, was so largely identified with the history of the business prosperity of the region in which he lived, that his death will be the subject of deep and sincere regret among every class of men that the personality of his large-hearted and generous nature touched.

He was a pioneer among the material beginnings of our prosperity, and while he so largely helped in building the foundations of the industrial enterprises, with which his foresight and business skill were identified, he has built as well a record of an upright, generous and consistent Christian life, that will ever stand as the most enduring monument to his memory.

Mr. Graff commenced his business career in this country sometime in 1844, when with the late Jacob Painter, of Pittsburg, he became the joint owner of the then valuable property known as the Buffalo Furnace, and in the successful management of its affairs up to 1864, he amassed large means.

He was afterward concerned in the establishment and management of the Buffalo woolen mills, one of the most

prominent and successful business concerns in the country, and upon the discovery of oil in the upper country, through fortunate investments, he became the possessor of large tracts of land that returned immense income. Through all these different channels into which his sagacious foresight and business ability were cast, he accumulated large means that placed him in the rank of the very wealthy men of the country.

In the abounding generosity of his nature his wealth has been made the source of much good and benefaction. Devoutly attached to the tenets of the Lutheran faith he was an active and consistent member of the congregation of that denomination in Worthington near where he lived, and gave very largely of his means toward its support. At the erection of the new and beautiful edifice of worship, of that body, he contributed by far the greater amount of the fund necessary to its erection, and it was not only in his giving that his influence was felt, but more in the active, earnest and devoted Christian life that he led, as an exemplar of the noblest characteristics of a Christian manhood.

For more than forty years he was the Superintendent of the Sabbath School of that thriving congregation, instilling into the growing minds the precepts of religious truth and giving bent and direction to the moral growth of the entire community.

He lived not only within, but somewhat beyond the confines of his dogmatic faith in the religion of good deeds, of character, of sincerity, in honest endeavor, of

cheerful hope, and above all in a religion for every day in the giving of food and raiment to the deserving objects of help. The religion of health and happiness, freedom and content. In the religion of work, and in the ceremonies of honest labor. Such a life was a potent factor for good in its own showing, and leaves behind it an impulse toward moral achievement, a halo of departing light that shall long give direction to those that strive.

He was the sympathizing friend to the whole community who trusted to his larger experience, counsel and help, in moments of doubt, distress or darkened light, and as was eloquently said by the servant man of God who pronounced the last tribute of regard before the temple of his great heart was lowered to the grave, "if all whom his helping hand assisted could have been present at his funeral, it would have been the largest ever seen in the country."

His munificent donation to the Lutheran College at Gettysburg, recently bestowed, and the ample charities that in every direction have flowed from his hands during his life time, and that will probably be remembered in the disposition of his large estate, make his death one of the most significant, in its relations not only to the present but to the future, that have taken place in the county.

Above his silent clay, as it was consigned to earth last Friday afternoon, many sorrowing tears were shed by old and young, rich and poor, kinsman and neighbor, for whom the loving heart had forever ceased to beat, whose busy brain was still, and from whose hand had dropped the sacred torch.

THE following funeral sermon was preached by the Rev. J. W. Schwartz, for many years Mr. Graff's pastor :

TEXT.—2 Samuel 3 : 38—“ *Know ye not that there is a prince and a great man fallen this day in Israel ?* ”

A brief glance at the history of the event referred to here will help us to understand the text more clearly.

After the death of Saul, the first king of Israel, when David undertook to set up his throne as king—Abner, Captain of Saul's host, resisted his authority, and set up Ish-bosheth, Saul's son, to reign in Saul's stead. The result of this rivalry was a battle between David's subjects, led by Joab, and Ish-bosheth's, under command of Abner. This battle ended disastrously to Abner's forces ; for many were slain and the rest fled. Asahel, one of Joab's brothers, pursued Abner to kill him ; and he (Abner), in self-defence, slew his pursuer. Not long after this, Abner withdrew his allegiance from Ish-bosheth, and made a treaty of peace with David ; and, in an interview with him, made a covenant to be his subject thenceforth forever. When he left David's presence, Joab—no doubt through revenge for Asahel's death—treacherously slew him. David, when he heard this, mourned bitterly for Abner, and called on his people to mourn with him ; and the words of our text are a part of the lamentation he uttered. In these words he meant to say that Abner's death—not merely because of the way in which it had been accomplished, but because of his qualities as a leader—was a cause of mourning to all the people.

The theme this subject suggests for our study to-day is, THE DEATH OF PROMINENT MEN A SORE BEREAVEMENT TO THE COMMUNITY IN WHICH THEY LIVED.

As a rule, when any one dies, that death brings sorrow to *some* hearts, however few. Now and then, there are those who leave the world "unwept, unhonored and unsung," but they are comparatively few. Many, when they die, leave behind a large circle of loving hearts, bound to them by tender ties of kinship, that are sorely stricken when these ties are broken. But, now and then, one dies, whose relations to the whole neighborhood around him have been such that all mourn his loss. This last class is the one we are considering to-day. In our discussion of this subject, let us consider what are the qualities that are necessary to entitle one to the name, "a great man," "a prince."

In general, it may be said, *they are those that make a man worthy of the esteem of his fellow-men*—qualities that *eminently fit* him to be a leader among men. A man is not great merely because he happens to occupy a place of honor, or wealth. If he is great, it is because he deserves these distinctions.

These qualities are, a strict moral integrity; sound worldly wisdom; diligence in one's vocation; a heart full of sympathy for others, and a true Christian character.

Let us dwell on these qualities a little while, that we may see what meaning they have.

(a) *Strict moral integrity.* By this is meant a sincere love for what is right, *because it is right*, and not merely

for the sake of the worldly gain it will bring. It includes a character free from vicious habits, honesty in our dealings with our fellow-men, and being what we seem to others to be, as we mingle with them.

(b) *Sound worldly wisdom.* By this is meant not necessarily a large amount of worldly learning, but the ability to make the best use of whatever knowledge one possesses, be it much or little. It includes an accurate judgment—the power to see clearly what objects are worth striving for, and what right means are best fitted to secure those objects.

(c) *Diligence in one's vocation.* This means that attention that brings him success in it. It means a patient perseverance in it, even though amid many discouragements.

(d) *A heart full of sympathy for others.* This means a readiness to share in the joys and sorrows of others, and especially in their sorrows; and to be ready to relieve the distress of others, even though it cost great self-denial.

(e) *A true Christian character.* Do you need to be told what is meant by this? What else *can* it mean but a sincere love for God and earnest desire to serve him; a humble, hearty confession of one's sinfulness, and a firm faith in Jesus Christ as his only Saviour from sin and its consequences.

Now, he who possesses these qualities is truly great, no matter what his station in life is; and the more they abound in him, the more Prince-like is his character.



Now, the death of such men is sore bereavement to the community in which they lived. For,

1st. Each person in the community feels such a death to be a personal loss. No one can long live a life like this, without finding abundant opportunity to help others prosper ; and in countless ways he will confer benefits on others that will fill them with sincere gratitude to him. Beside this, many who are not under obligations to him for favors received, will be filled with the kindest regard for the noble qualities they see in him ; and so are led to cherish warm personal friendship for him. He will seem dear to them, almost, as one of their own kin ; and so his death will seem a personal loss.

2nd. When such men die, it is not very easy to fill their place.

3rd. The world has none too many men of this kind, at the most ; and instead of the number decreasing, it should be increased.

There can be no question that, with each succeeding generation, the wants of the human race are rapidly increasing in every direction ; and each successive age calls more and more loudly for men of large heart, and brain, and energy, and influence, and means, to study these wants and devise the best means to meet them. And when men of this kind are found, how the world clings to them ! and when they die, what a vacant place they leave ! And, now, is this a suitable occasion for the utterance of such sentiments ? There is no question that it is. When *any* event of more than ordinary import-

ance occurs, it is the part of wisdom to seek to learn some profitable lesson from it; and when one who has occupied an eminent place in the community dies, it is very profitable to study his life and see what of good that study will bring.

It is not with any desire to flatter that I point to the career of Brother Graff, and ask, What has made his life the success it has been? What is it that has given him the financial standing, the social influence, the religious reputation he has had these many years? He did not begin life with these advantages. Many a time he has said to me that he began life with comparatively nothing. How then, does it come that his name has been so prominent for so long a time?

For well nigh fifty years I myself have known him to be intimately connected with important business interests in one place or another. For nearly thirty years I have known much of his reputation as a Christian worker; and for more than twenty years, I have seen how intimately he was associated with nearly all the interests of our community. What is the secret of all this? I believe it is to be found in this: that he possessed in large measure the qualities already suggested as essential to success in life.

His moral character has always been above reproach. In his dealings with men, he was at all times reliable. In financial affairs, there never was the time when his word was not as good as his bond.

His judgment was eminently sound and clear. Many

men sought his counsel in their difficulties ; and almost always, when they followed his advice, they found the way out of their trouble.

His diligence in business was unsurpassed ; and his application, energy and providence went very far to give him the reputation he had to the very end of his life in all business affairs.

But it is of the finer qualities of his nature I delight to speak. What a tender heart he had ! How ready he was at all times to minister to those in distress ! I have often said that when Brother Graff should die if those, and those only, whom he aided in substantial ways, should all attend his funeral, it would be the largest ever witnessed in our community. His heart always beat in pity for those in trouble ; and his hand was ever open to relieve their wants. More than once he has done this at great self-denial—as *I well know*.

And then, as regards his Christian character. Day by day, he realized and confessed himself a poor sinner, deserving nothing good from God : but yet trusting with unshaken faith in the atoning work of our Lord for salvation. All here know how repeatedly and earnestly he sought to persuade men to forsake their sinful lives and consecrate themselves to God's service. How it grieved his heart when he saw any spending their time and wasting their strength in sinful pleasure. He delighted in the prosperity of the Church and Sabbath School, and was always ready to give freely in money and work for their success. For over fifty years he has been actively

engaged in Christian work. Ever since I have known him, he has been one of the elders in our church here, and nearly all of this time he has been Superintendent of our Sabbath School.

And now, does not God design to teach us all a very important lesson in taking him from our midst? Surely He is seeking to bring the church to look out among its membership some one to take his place. Is there not some undeveloped talent that may be found and brought into use? It is good for a church, often, to have its earthly props removed, that it may be led to trust in God earnestly, and bring into active use its latent powers. As a community, we can learn *this* lesson:—that, after all, there is nothing that brings richer reward than a life devoted to the service of God and brightest interests of our fellow-men.

To his family, God comes in this bereavement with a lesson full of comfort and instruction.

You have much to *comfort* you in his life and in his death. He died “like one who wraps the drapery of his couch about him, and lies down to pleasant dreams,” and he so died, because he lived in unshaken faith in Jesus.

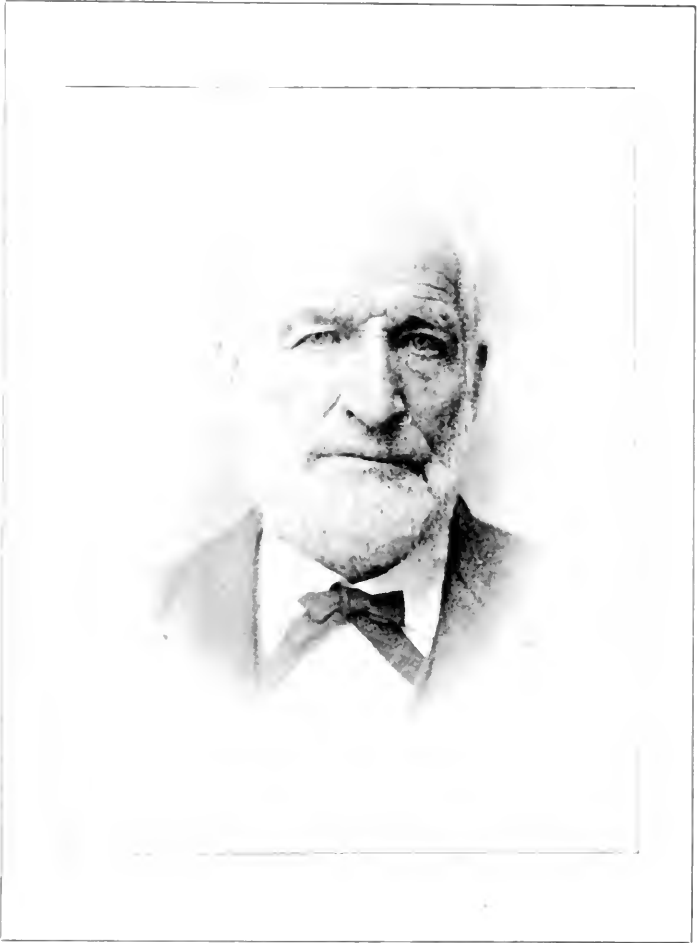
There is much in his life that is worthy of emulation by his children. Are there any of you who will take his place in the church? He began to serve the Lord when he was younger than some of you; and see what a record he has left! Why may not you follow him, as he followed Christ, and so help to enlarge his sphere of usefulness, by having him live in your lives?

I assure you of the hearty sympathy of all this vast congregation, and of many who are not here to-day. God has sorely bereaved you in this providence. From the wife, in her declining years, He has taken the strong arm on which for three-score years she has so trustingly leaned ; from the children he has taken a father, where counsel seemed so helpful. He has seen it good to afflict you all so sorely of late. But it is all right : and after while you will know why He deals with you as He does. With all my heart I commend you to His tender care, assuring you with perfect confidence that He has given His angels charge over you, to keep you in all your ways, if you only trust Him.

“The Lord bless you and keep you :

“The Lord make His face shine upon you, and be gracious unto you :

“The Lord lift up His Countenance upon you and give you peace.” Amen !



JACOB GRAFF.

X.—JACOB GRAFF.

JACOB GRAFF, the sixth son of John and Barbara Graff, was born September 5th, 1810, and died, December 9th, 1886. He was married, June 9th, 1836, to Sarah A. Pershing, who was born June 22d, 1818. He lived with his mother on the farm where he was born until the age of seventeen. At this age he learned the trade of making hats—silk, wool, and the finest beaver, with his brother-in-law, John Colleasure, in the village of Pleasant Unity. He was very industrious and a good workman, doing business for himself for several years. He then moved to New Derry, Westmoreland County, Pa., about ten miles from the County seat, Greensburg, where he was married, and where he engaged in the milling business with Mr. Armstrong, his brother-in-law, until he moved to Rushville, Illinois. There he purchased a farm and also built a steam flouring mill. He continued in that business until a short time before his death.

At the age of 22, he became a Christian and united with the Methodist E. Church in Pleasant Unity. He was an earnest and faithful follower of Christ. He soon became a class-leader in the church and engaged in all Christian work until his death. He was one of the four elder sons who were faithful servants of Christ for over fifty years!

THE CHILDREN OF JACOB GRAFF WERE:

No. 1.—CYRUS, born Oct. 27th, 1837.

On Feb. 18th, 1868, he married Mary C. Potts, who was born Oct. 15th, 1840. Their children are:

- (1) CHARLES W., born Dec. 15th, 1868.
- (2) JOHN P., " May 22d, 1871.
- (3) MARY M., " June 16th, 1876.

No. 2.—WILBUR F., born Mar. 12th, 1840; died Oct. 22d, 1862.

No. 3.—JOHN, born Sept. 2d, 1842.

On March 15th, 1866, he married Hettie Ramsey who was born August 10th, 1840. Their children are:

- (1) PAUL D., born Dec. 26th, 1866.
- (2) ANNA M., " Jan. or June 6th, 1871.
- (3) EFFIE J., " Aug. 3rd, 1873.
- (4) SARAH P., " April 10th 1876.
- (5) WILLIAM R., " Oct. 26th, 1877.
- (6) RHODA, " Sept. 16th, 1879.

John is now living in Tecumseh, Neb., engaged in dry goods business.

No. 4.—HIRAM, born Oct. 22d, 1844.

On Dec. 27th, 1872, he married Sarah E. Wilson, who was born Apr. 4th, 1847, and died Feb. 21st, 1883. Their children are

- (1) HERBERT W., born May 24th, 1874; died Mar. 30th, 1878.
- (2) WILBUR, " July 20th, 1877.
- (3) CLARKE, " April 20th, 1879.
- (4) HAROLD, " June 15th, 1881.

No. 5.—JOSEPH, born Feb. 18th, 1848; died Oct. 13th, 1851.

No. 6.—EDWARD, born Feb. 19th, 1857.

THE FOLLOWING OBITUARY NOTICE OF JACOB GRAFF WAS
PUBLISHED.

On last Thursday morning the people of our city were astonished by the announcement that "Father Graff" was dead. And yet every one said the peaceful and quiet way in which he passed away was fitting the life he had lived.

Jacob Graff was born in Westmoreland County, Pa., September 5th, 1810, making him 76 years, 3 months, and 4 days old. He was converted and joined the Methodist Episcopal Church in his 22d year, and has lived an honored and consistent Christian life from the time of his profession. During most of the time he was a class-leader, and has always lived up to the discipline idea of a sub-pastor. He was married to Miss Sarah Pershing, June 9th, 1836, and for fifty years and six months they have walked happily together, and in the nature of the case, it cannot be long until they will be re-united where death never comes.

Brother Graff came to Rushville in 1853, and lived here as one of our citizens until his death, thus, for 33 years he has gone in and out among this people, and many there are who rise up and call him blessed. He was not demonstrative or boastful, but calm and reserved, yet ever anxious and solicitous about the erring or needy; and in his timid, gentle and kind way, went about to do them good. His life was akin to the greatest forces of God—the silent ones! Talents may break forth like a

blazing comet and attract attention for a while, wealth may command obeisance and wield a sceptre of power for a season, but after all there is no life that compares with that one which is "hid with Christ in God." The last public service that Father Graff attended was that of a Love Feast followed with the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. On Thursday morning, December 9th, 1886, he awakened about half past five o'clock, and remarked to his wife that he would arise to begin the duties of another day, but it was only the Spirit that arose, for while speaking he bowed his head and fell back asleep in Jesus. "He was not, for God took him." F. M. Sisson.

The funeral services were conducted at the M. E. Church, by the Pastor, assisted by the Revs. John Clarke and John Knowly. There was a large congregation assembled to pay their last respects to their esteemed fellow citizen. The remains were laid to rest in the Rushville Cemetery, about 4 o'clock, p. m. His sons, Messrs. John Graff, of Tecumseh, Nebraska, and Edward Graff, who is a student at the Wesleyan University, at Bloomington, arrived here in time to attend the obsequies.





MATTHEW GRAFF.

XI.—MATTHEW GRAFF

MATTHEW GRAFF, the seventh son of John and Barbara Graff, who was born August 12th, 1812, is still living and now resides near Kensington, Ohio. After leaving his mother's home, he clerked for his brother Henry, in Pleasant Unity, and learned the business of a country merchant. At the age of twenty he went to Blairsville, Indiana County, Pa., doing business for his brothers Henry and Peter. In 1836 he was married, having at that time an interest in the business, remaining in the firm until 1852, when he removed to Pittsburgh, and at once engaged in the manufacturing of stoves, castings, etc. In 1858 his health failed, and he was obliged to dispose of his business interests in the city. He then purchased a farm in Ohio near Kensington, where he now resides.

In the year 1838, he became a Christian, and then began the development of this new life in the work of Christ. He soon became a leading member of the Lutheran Church. He was elected deacon, then elder; he became a teacher in the Sabbath School, and engaged in other Christian work. After his removal to Pittsburg, he soon became a leading man in the church there—was elected elder, and engaged prominently in all Christian work.

After removing to Ohio—there being no Lutheran

Church in the neighborhood—he at once connected himself with the Presbyterian Church, and so continued his Christian work. He was soon elected a ruling elder, and is still an active worker for Christ, having thus far, walked with God for over fifty years !

In a letter he says, “I well remember the trip we made in bringing our grandparents in the cold winter month to our home near Pleasant Unity, in a two horse wagon over rough, bad roads. A terrible journey for such old people.”

On January 18th, 1836, he was married to Barbara Lobengier, who was born January 10th, 1814.

CHILDREN AS FOLLOWS :

No. 1.—HENRY C., born April 29th, 1838.

No. 2.—AUG. B., “ Dec. 5th, 1840, has two children living.

No. 3.—FRANK M., “ Aug. 29th, 1842 ; one child.

No. 4.—SEBASTIAN C., “ Jan. 10th, 1844 ; six children.

No. 5.—ELIZABETH, “ Mar. 14th, 1846 ; died Mar. 17th, 1846.

No. 6.—EDWARD E., “ Feb. 1st, 1850.

No. 7.—RICHARD K., “ Oct. 14th, 1853 ; died Sept. 9th, 1856.

No. 8.—MARY E., “ June 7th, 1857.

She married Geo. R. Thompson ; have one child.

No. 9.—LIDA B., born Jan. 1st, 1860. She married.





PAUL GRAFF.

XII.—PAUL GRAFF.

PAUL GRAFF, the eighth son of John and Barbara Graff, was born May 31st, 1815.

On January 21st, 1841, he was married to Rebecca Trimble, who was born Oct. 9th, 1822. Children as follows :

No. 1.—ALBERT, born Oct. 21st, 1841.

On Nov. 19th, 1868, he was married to Jennie M. Audenreid, who was born Dec. 31st, 1843. Three children :

(1) ISABELLA A., born May 6th, 1870.

(2) REBECCA TRIMBLE, " Nov. 5th, 1872.

(3) ANNA AUDENRIED, " July 27th, 1879.

No. 2.—JAMES T., born May 22d, 1843.

On April 27th, 1871, he was married to Susie E. Aumont, who was born Sept. 10th, 1847 ; died Sept. 28th, 1877. Two children :

(1) JAMES AUMONT, born Aug. 10th, 1872 ; died,

(2) EDGAR PAUL, " Oct. 30th, 1876.

No. 3.—CUVIER, born Nov. 11th, 1844 ; died Dec. 7th, 1846.

No. 4.—CLARA E., " Sept. 16th, 1852.

No. 5.—PAUL FRANCIS, " March 1st, 1857 ; died Oct. 31st, 1859.

After collecting and recording the facts relating to the Graff Family, I think it but right that I should give a short sketch of my own life, from boyhood to the present date, 1890, so far as I can recollect.

After my father's death, which occurred December, 1818, when I was not quite 4 years old, my home was with my mother, brothers and sisters on the farm in Westmoreland County, Pa. I went to school but little; and then only in the winter months, until the age of 12 years. Of course, my education was limited, having to do my share of work—or what I was able, on the farm, such as feeding the stock, carrying water to the reapers and mowers, also raking and making hay, etc. At the age of 14, my brother John purchased the store of my brother Henry, located in Pleasant Unity, and he gave me a situation therein. I was to sell goods, sweep and keep the store in order, and make myself generally useful. For all this, I was to receive sixty dollars and board per year—furnishing my own clothes.

I remained in this small village for several years, then I went to Blairsville, Indiana County, to be with my brothers, Henry and Peter. I was employed first in their store, and then in the warehouse, altogether about eight years. In 1840 I accepted a clerkship in Hollidaysburgh, Blair County, in the Union Transportation Line. It was at this time that I was engaged to be married, and in January 21st, 1841, I was married to Miss Rebecca Trimble, of Blairsville. After this important event in my life, I commenced business for myself, at Hollidaysburgh, in partnership with Mr. William M. Lloyd, in a store of general merchandise, Mr. Lloyd at that time being agent for the Union Transportation Line. I continued in business with Mr. Lloyd until 1853—twelve years.

I then went to Philadelphia in the autumn of 1853, and in the spring of 1854, I commenced in Philadelphia the wholesale boot and shoe business, in partnership with Messrs. Darling & Elliott, on Third street above Arch. After changing the firm two or three times, we moved to 512 Market street, in 1873, the style of the firm being Graff, Son & Co. The firm still remains the same, with no change of partners. I have built a new store on the old premises, which was occupied August, 1890.

It was during my residence in Hollidaysburgh, in the year 1843, that I united with the Presbyterian Church, Rev. Dr. David McKinney, Pastor.

I consider this to be one of the most important steps in my life; and I trust I became a true child of God. What a happy change to take up the Cross and follow the Lamb of God! I was the youngest son of an aged Christian mother, who had spent many hours in prayer, by day and by night, for the conversion of her son. It has been a great regret to me that my dear mother died two years previous to my conversion. What would have been her joy, had she been living, to have seen the result of her faithfulness, and God's answer to prayer! What must have been her rejoicing with the angels in Heaven over her son's repentance, as we are assured in Holy Scripture that even the Angels rejoice over every soul returning to God!

In the course of the year, after my uniting with the Church, I engaged in Christian work, as a Sabbath School teacher and was soon after elected a deacon. I remained



a member of the Presbyterian church in Hollidaysburg, Pa., until the year 1853. We then removed to Philadelphia, when my wife, who was also a member, and myself placed our certificates in the Central Church, corner of Eighth and Cherry streets, Dr. Henry Steel Clark, Pastor.

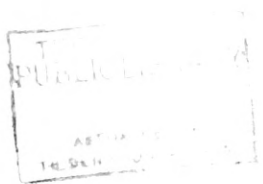
At this time, we resided on 11th street above Arch. We remained members of the Central Church, until about the year 1859; and during this period I was active in Sunday School work.

Having moved from 11th street to Green street, above 15th, in 1857, and finding the distance too great to Central Church.

We were induced to unite with other Presbyterians in that locality, in establishing a new church, which was organized in 1859, and called the Alexander Presbyterian Church, corner of 19th and Green streets, Dr. Nevin, Pastor. The new enterprize greatly needing help, I gave all my energies for the success of the mission as Trustee, Treasurer, Teacher of the Sabbath School, and otherwise assisting in the work of the Mission. After the erection of a temporary building, in less than one month, we withdrew our membership from the Central Church and joined the new enterprise. In 1860 the church began to decline, owing to causes not necessary to state. In the autumn of the same year, Dr. Nevin resigned, leaving the church in the hands of the sheriff to be sold in three weeks. At this juncture, I went to work and secured the funds to satisfy the mortgage, and thus the church was saved to the Presbytery. In about a year Dr. Cunningham was

called to the Pastorate, and after he came, the church was put in working order. We withdrew our membership, and went back to our old church home, corner of 8th and Cherry streets. At the same time we moved to 10th above Arch, quite near our Pastor, Dr. Clark, and the church, where we resided for some two or three years. In the early part of the year 1864, Dr. Clark died. The location not being a desirable one to live in, I purchased a house on North Broad Street, to which we moved in Oct., 1864.

Under my own personal supervision a mission Sabbath School was started and located near Broad and Oxford streets. Having engaged the Rev. John P. Conkey, we commenced services in the Wagner Institute; but being somewhat out of the way of the population, we gave it up, and I hired a hall on Montgomery street, near 12th, but Mr. Conkey failing to give his energies and heart to the work, we had to give up the enterprise. I then engaged in a new Mission School, on the corner of Broad and Oxford streets, and remained at work there, for four or five years; the result being that we organized a church called the *Oxford Church*, the pastor being Dr. Frank Robbins. After building a fine church edifice in the fall of 1869 (though previously, I had withdrawn my certificate from the *Central Church* and joined the *Oxford Church*, also acting as trustee, and engaged as teacher in Sunday School, and other good works for strengthening the church), we moved to 3301 Arch street, West Philadelphia. On moving here, we joined Princeton



Church, Rev. Dr. Addison Henry, Pastor. Here we remained for about three years, working in the Sabbath School, &c. My son, Albert, who was living on Cherry street near 20th at this time, attended the Second Church, corner 21st and Walnut, Dr. Elias R. Beadle, Pastor. We then concluded to unite with this church, hoping our son would join with us in Christian fellowship. I was elected Trustee, soon after Elder, also was a teacher in the Sabbath School until 1883.

JOHN GRAFF'S WILL.

Dec. 14th, 1818.

IN THE NAME OF GOD, AMEN.

I, John Graff, of Unity Township, Westmoreland Co., and State of Pennsylvania, Yeoman, being weak in body but of sound mind and memory and understanding, blessed be God for the same, but, considering the uncertainty of this transitory life, do make and publish this my last will and testament in manner and form following :

Principally and first of all, I commend my immortal soul into the hands of Almighty God, who gave it, and as to such worldly estate wherewith it hath pleased God to bless me in this life, I give and dispose of the same in the following manner, viz : I will that my beloved wife Barbara Graff, shall have the full use and possession of all my real and personal estate, until my youngest son is

arrived at full age. But should my beloved wife Barbara decease before my youngest son arrives to his full age, then my real and personal estate to fall into the hands of my three eldest sons, namely, Henry, William and John Graff, to do with it as they think proper, until my youngest son is arrived at his lawful age, and, after his arriving at lawful age, the place where I now live and reside, with the Coal Bank bought from Archibald McCallester, and one half of the Ridge place to be given unto my seven sons, namely, Henry, William, John, Peter, Jacob, Mathias and Paul Graff, at the valuation of Four Thousand Dollars, which sum is to be divided into eleven shares, and four of said shares to be given unto my four daughters, share and share alike, namely, Polly Graff, now Polly Lose, Sarah, Margaret and Elizabeth Graff, to be given unto them or their lawful heirs or successors, at said time. But if my wife chooseth to change her way of living and marry, then she is to be paid four hundred dollars by my executors hereafter named, but if she continues my widow, she is to have the place called Poormans, with half the Ridge place to support her during her natural life, with as much stock and household furniture as she chooses to take without appraisement, and after her decease the place with half of the Ridge place to be given to my afore-named seven sons, or their lawful heirs or successors, for the sum of four thousand dollars, to be divided into eleven equal shares, to be given unto my aforesaid eleven children, share and share alike, or their lawful heirs or successors ; and lastly I nominate, constitute and



appoint my beloved wife Barbara, Henry, William and John Graff, my three eldest sons, to be the sole executrix and executors of this my last will and testament, hereby revoking all other wills, legacies and bequests by me heretofore made ; and declaring this and no other to be my last will and testament. In witness whereof, I have hereto set my hand this fourteenth day of December, eighteen hundred and eighteen.

Signed, sealed, published, pronounced and declared by the said testator as his last will and testament in the presence of us, who in the presence and at his request, have subscribed as witnesses.

JOHN GRAFF. [SEAL.]

WITNESSES :

MARTIN BASH,

ARCH'D McCALLISTER.

Legally proven and recorded on the 20th day of July, 1824.

ROBERT MONTGOMERY, Reg.

GREENSBURG, WESTMORELAND CO.

In memory of Father, Mother, Brothers and Sisters, what can I say sufficiently of such a Christian family.

Shortly after the formation of our Government, father came to this country and married my mother, Barbara Baum, in 1793. At that time few people inhabited that

part of Westmoreland Co., in the State of Pennsylvania. where all influences were more or less demoralizing to new settlers, such as Indian raids, murders, ungodliness, &c. Many of the settlers were uneducated, with no opportunity for improving their minds, such as schools and churches. They were few in number, and great distances apart, and far from many homes—and these were about the only good influences in frontier life. Nothing but the love of God in the hearts of my father and mother and continued Christian instruction could have exerted such influences on their children, so that when they grew up to man and womanhood, they developed such Christian characters and love for Christ, as they did.

First, there was Henry, the eldest, what a kind and generous brother he was, instructing and fitting the others for business in his own store, then giving them an interest in the business. And so with John and Peter—that same spirit of generosity was developed as they grew in business qualifications and prospered in means—the earnest desire to assist others younger or older than themselves. The offer of giving assistance, and the keeping of worthy ones of the family in favorable positions, made a deep impression on my mind and heart. To see father, brother or son in the same firm, showed the confidence and trust, towards one another, also a manifestation, to my mind, that was both Christian and business-like.

And now a word for the sisters.

Mary, the eldest sister, died in 1833. She was married and away from home, while I was yet a child, so I cannot

recall much concerning her, from my own recollection; but I have heard her son John, and others, speak of her kindness, and her lovely Christian character.

Sarah, the second sister, was a very hospitable Christian woman, also kind and affectionate. During camp meetings, many sisters in Christ found a welcome at her table.

Margaret, the third sister, was a devoted Christian, early giving herself to the Lord, and joining the Presbyterian church, along with her husband. She was kind and affectionate to all her brothers and sisters. On her death-bed she prayed that she might see her brothers before dying.

Elizabeth, the fourth and youngest sister was a child of God early in life, a member of the M. E. Church and a devoted follower of Christ. In her last sickness she suffered much; and, before her departure, she named all her brothers with her dying breath.

And now, in conclusion, may the same spirit of Christian character, love and generosity, continue in the children, and the children's children, is my prayer.

Anniversary of Marriage. *may 7th 1891*

Eight of the family have lived to celebrate,

Their Fiftieth Marriage Anniversary.

Names as follows:-William over Fifty-five years.

John over Fifty-three years.

Margaret over Fifty-one years.

Elizabeth " Fifty-one years.

Peter over Sixty years.

Jacob " Fifty years,

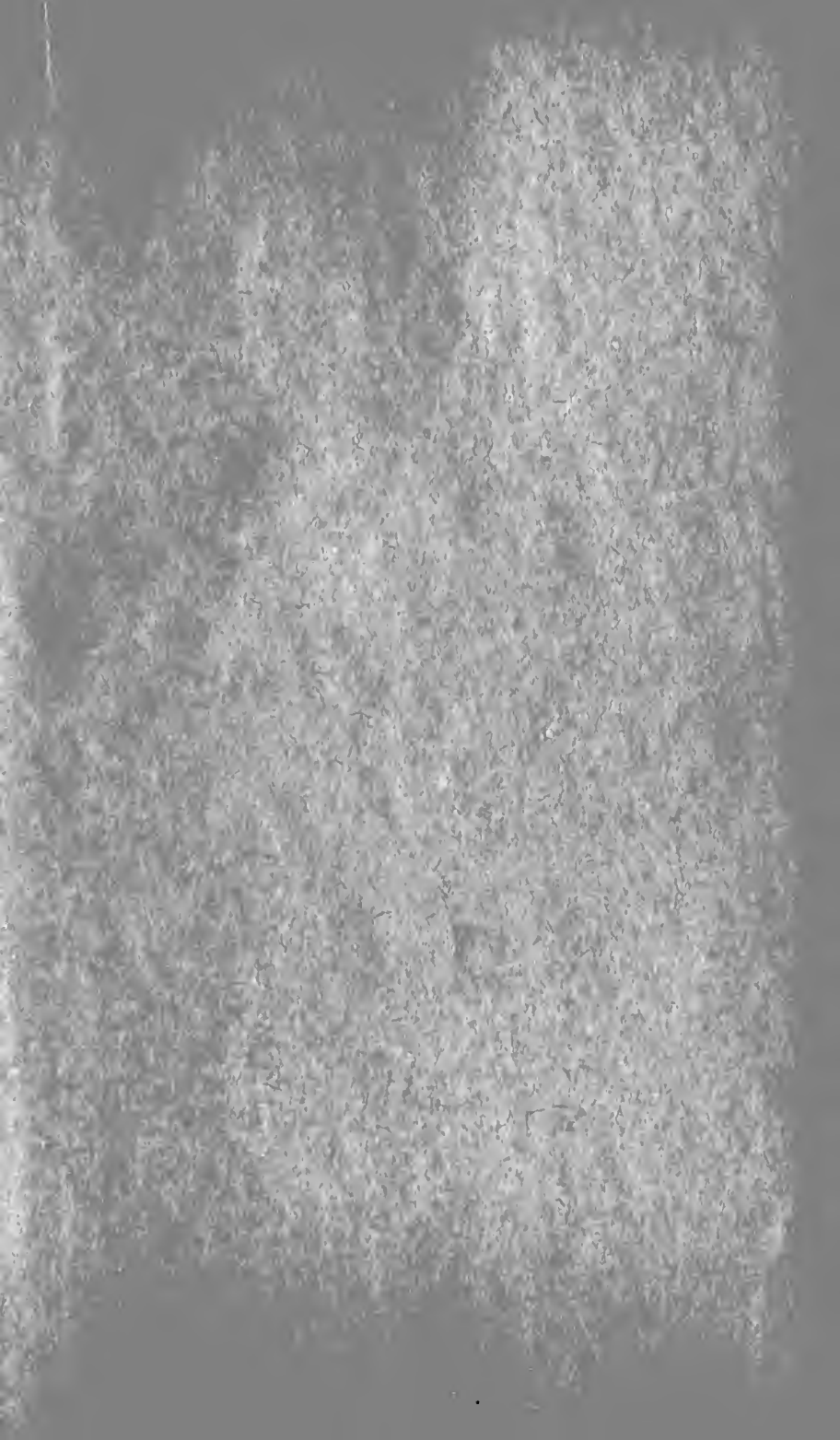
Mathew " Fifty-five years.

Paul " Fifty years.



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